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EDITORIAL ARTICLE STRESSES NEED TO CONSOLIDATE TRUST IN EUROPE

LD162250 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1840 GMT 16 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, 16 November, TASS--The following editorial article [redaktsionaya statya] is published in the 17 November edition of PRAVDA under the heading: "For Talks Instead of New Armaments:"

World attention is riveted on Europe. This is not coincidental. This is because lately the issue of the further development of international relations on the European Continent and of ways to strengthen its security has once again become particularly acute. The fate of the whole world greatly depends on the nature of the solution of this problem.

The Soviet viewpoint on the above question was exhaustively expounded in Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's speech in Berlin on 6 October 1979, in his answers to questions by the PRAVDA correspondent of 6 November 1979, and also in other recent speeches. It is no coincidence that a broad discussion is underway on the above speeches not only in Europe but also in other countries of the world.

Even quite recently, in 1975, after the European Conference on Security and Cooperation, one might have thought that the answer to the question of how European international relations would develop was clear. At any rate the Helsinki Final Act contained everything necessary to insure development along a path of consistently strengthening peaceful coexistence and supplementing political detente with detente in the military sphere.

However, it is now becoming obvious that the forces interested in another, opposite, path for European development are again becoming more active and are undertaking varied and coordinated efforts to bring about in essence a return to "cold war" times.

The essence of the matter is that the peoples of the European Continent are faced with a choice. The choice boils down to the following: Will Europe go along a path of further stepping up the arms race, of a new increase in tension, and thus of undermining detente, or along a path of further applying and deepening the Helsinki principles--that is reducing arms, strengthening security and developing peaceful cooperation? The aggressive circles of the United States and the NATO leadership are foising the first choice onto the European peoples. The second choice is being advocated by the Soviet Union, the countries of the socialist community and very wide circles of West European public opinion. A number of the governments of the states of Western Europe are expressing their support for this second choice. And the Atlantic camp itself far from everyone is craving to be pulled even deeper into the arms race whirlpool.

The proposals on the further development of peaceful relations for our continent that have been put forward by Comrade Brezhnev on behalf of the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community comprise, it can be said, a program for strengthening peace in Europe. What are the main features of that program?

The starting point of the program, which the socialist community is submitting to the peoples of all Europe, is the need to continue detente, to deepen it and to supplement it with military detente. In other words, the Soviet Union and its allies are willing, together with all the peoples of the continent, with the peoples of the United States and Canada, to continue along the path that has already enabled us to make considerable progress toward the desired goal of lasting peace in Europe. At the same time, in the real conditions that have come to exist, the USSR proposes that new measures be taken and is putting forward new initiatives corresponding to the present taks.

A characteristic feature of the socialist program for strengthening European peace is that it embraces all the main aspects of military detente in our continent: nuclear armaments reduction, conventional armaments reduction, and confidence-building measures. The implementation of the proposed complex of measures would mean a real strengthening of military security for all the European countries, and an increase of trust in relations among them.

The first important element in this program consists in the fact that it points to an effective way toward lowering the quantity of nuclear weaponry on European soil.

In point of fact, as we indicated in the joint communique on the results of the official friendly visit to the GDR of the USSR party and government delegation, "the Soviet Union is prepared, by way of a goodwill gesture, to reduce unilaterally the quantity of medium-range nuclear missiles deployed in western regions of the USSR compared with the present level, on condition that there is no additional deployment in Western Europe of medium-range nuclear weapons." Thus, the Soviet state is expressing its readiness to perform an act of great military and political significance in the name of averting a new twist in the arms race spiral. We not only state the aim of lowering levels of military confrontation, but we are also prepared to make a weighty contribution to the attainment of this aim.

At the same time, the Soviet Government, as L.I. Brezhnev clearly said in answer to a question from a PRAVDA correspondent, proposes beginning talks without delay on the reduction of medium-range nuclear weapons sited in Europe.

Of course, the previous proposals regarding withdrawal from the Mediterranean of Soviet and U.S. ships capable of carrying nuclear weapons still remain in force. The Soviet Union confirms that it supports President U. Kekkonen's plan to turn Northern Europe into a nuclear-free zone.

The second element of our peace program for Europe is that the proposal by the Warsaw Pact countries to all states that took part in the general European conference that they should renounce first use against each other of either nuclear or non-nuclear weapons, remains fully in force. The Soviet Union, for its part, has clearly stated that it will never use nuclear weapons against states that renounce the production or acquisition of such weapons and do not have them on their territory. As Comrade Brezhnev said on 6 November this year, "we would be willing to draw up appropriate obligations with any interested state."

The third element of the peace program for Europe relates to the reduction of conventional weapons. As is generally known, the Soviet Union nas taken the decision (in agreement with the GDR leadership and after consultations with other participants in the Warsaw Pact) unilaterally to reduce the strength of Soviet troops in central Europe. It is a question of withdrawing up to 20,000 Soviet servicemen, 1,000 tanks, and also a certain quantity of other military equipment from the territory of the GDR to the territory of the Soviet Union over an already-begun 12-month period.

This step by the Soviet state and its allies is likewise a real stimulus for the Vienna talks, which have reached a deadlock through the fault of the Western powers.

Finally, the fourth element of this program consists in the USSR and its allies proposing to the Western powers to undertake measures aimed at strengthening trust. It is a matter of the procedure of notification about military exercises with the participation of more than 40-50,000 man; of notifying each other well in advance not only of military exercises but also of movements of ground forces in excess of 20,000 men.

Other earlier proposals of the socialist countries relating to notification about major air force exercises, naval maneuvers, and so forth, remain in force.

The implementation of the proposals for widening measures of trust would promote relaxation of tension and diminish the threat of war in Europe.

These are our proposals. They have been reiterated here in their totality in view of the fact that they are very frequently distorted by Western propaganda, and part of them is complete hushed up. Meanwhile, this is a matter of a body of ideas that are of cardinal political importance both for the present and the future.

The implementation of the Soviet proposals would not result in any unilateral advantages for the Soviet Union or any other socialist country. All countries of the continent stand to gain from their realization.

We are convinced that it is precisely this approach which meets the realities which have taken shape, and which consists, in the fact that security in Europe is indivisible. As a matter of fact it was this idea which lay at the root of the Helsinki documents. The Soviet Union is for materializing this idea, for translating it fully into life.

Regarding the United States, the realization of our proposals would by no means be to their detriment. The American people only stand to gain from a consolidation of detente in Europe, as do the peoples of the European Continent itself.

What do the United States and NATO offer the peoples of Europe? That side, too, speaks of the need to strengthen peace and continue detente. They even speak of the need to reduce armaments. However, this is all declarations. In fact what is being said is that the West European countries, supposedly for the sake of achieving the above-mentioned aims, must now agree to the deployment of qualitatively new U.S. nuclear weapons on their territory. What is meant here are about 600 carriers of medium-range nuclear weapons.

What reason is given in the West for the plans of deploying these weapons on European soil? When answering this question Western politicians who support the proposed measure usually say: This has become necessary because the Soviet Union has allegedly over the past few years "built up too much" its medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe. The initial premise of the U.S.-NATO plans has, however, nothing in common with reality.

The truth is: After the Helsinki conference the Soviet Union and its allies did everything necessary consistently to implement the agreements reached in the capital of Finland.

This also applies to military detente questions. All defense measures that were adopted over the past few years in the Soviet Union in no way contradict the spirit of Helsinki. They were implemented taking into account the circumstance that the basis of present-day international development and an important basis for detente is an approximate balance of forces both between the USSR and the United States and between the Warsaw Pact and NATO. Speaking in Berlin on 6 October this year, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev pointed out that over the past 10 years the number of medium-range nuclear weapons carriers had not increased by one missile or by one plane on the European territory of the Soviet Union. On the contrary, the number of medium-range missile launching installations and the capacity of the nuclear charge of such missiles has decreased slightly. The number of medium bombers has also been reduced. The Soviet Union does not deploy any such means on the territory of other states. For a number of years now we have not been increasing the number of our troops stationed in central Europe.

As for the Soviet missiles which are usual called SS-20s in the West and over which there is so much fuss there, then, as has already been authoritatively stated on our part, this is a weapon intended to carry out the same tasks as the medium-range missiles of the old types, which it replaced. The deployment of our medium-range missiles was brought about by the presence on the territory of the NATO countries in Europe of a powerful group of U.S. forward-based nuclear weapons, and also relevant British and French weapons systems capable of reaching the territory of the Soviet Union.

NATO countries leaders have time and again claimed to want talks on medium-range weapons. One could recall that the Soviet Union has repeatedly in the past--both at the time of the start of the SALT I talks, and at the SALT II talks--proposed to the United States that the question of forward-based weapons and corresponding Soviet weapons be resolved. However, these proposals did not meet with a response from our partners in the talks. And now, when we are proposing the staging of immediate talks, including ones to deal with this category of weapons, the leaders of the Western powers are evading a reply to this proposal in every way possible.

That is how matters stand. As is evident, the actions of the Soviet side can in no measure justify the deployment by the United States of qualitatively new weapons in Western Europe. Incidentally, the presence in Europe of an approximate balance of military forces is admitted even by the Western figures, who (including President Carter, the secretary general of NATO, Luns, and others) have reaffirmed this just in these past few months.

One would think that it is worth recalling the following "detail," too. If the West is so worried about Soviet arms in Europe, then why did it not respond in due course to our proposal to freeze the arms level existing in the central part of the continent for the duration of the Vienna talks? The answer to this question is evidently that the NATO leaders, and primarily the United States, in fact are interested not so much in reducing arms but more in building up U.S. nuclear forces on European soil. As is well known (this was stated by the FRG Defence Minister H. Apel on 2 February this year) the decision to modernize the NATO potential in Europe was taken as long ago as 1975 when not a single SS-20 missile had been deployed in the European regions of the Soviet Union.

In the past 10 years, the Western powers have done much to increase the numerical strength of and improve, their armaments in Europe, including armaments capable of reaching the territory of the Soviet Union. The quantity of nuclear warheads on West European soil has doubled. The United States has modernized its aircraft capable of delivering these charges to their target (including territory of the USSR. The numerical strength of U.S. troops in European territory has risen, too. And now the United States is bringing into the European countries a further quantity of arms and equipment to create reserves for a further six American divisions; so that, if anyone has been taking measures potentially violating the balance of forces in the continent, then it is not the Soviet Union, but the United States and the other Western powers.

Now it is being persistently proposed to add to what has already been deployed in Europe a further 600 new U.S. nuclear missiles. There is direct evidence of a striving to remove the threat of a retailiatory nuclear strike from transatlantic territories, transferring it to a considerable degree to the territory of Western Europe. The danger such a step would entail is enormous. To try to underrate it means to delude public opinion. To hide from it the true picture of the state of affairs. This is not a matter of some kind of "decision in principle" to be followed up by negotiations, but of the deployment of new systems of U.S. weapons in Western Europe. This was stated openly by H. Brown, the U.S. defense secretary, a few days ago. "The American Congress," according to his words "would never agree to allocate funds for such systems unless it knows that they will be deployed."

What would the implementation of the NATO plans mean in effect?

Above all it will mean a new shipping up of the arms race in Europe, since it is understandable that the appearance on the territory of Britain, the FRG, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands of several hundred super-modern missiles with nuclear warheads would change the strategic situation on the continent to the advantage of the NATO bloc. And it is understandable that the Soviet Union and its allies could not ignore this and would have to take measures in response. Against their will, European peoples would, as a result, find themselves drawn into a new contest in production of ever more deadly types of weapons.

There is no such country, there is no such people in Europe, the interests of which would not be damaged by the implementation of the plans of the United States and NATO. This applies all the more in present-day conditions when the peoples of the continent are faced with so many urgent peace tasks, the solution of which requires great resources.

As was stressed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, the aim of the present U.S.-NATO plans is precisely to "wreck the balance of forces that has come about in Europe and to try to insure military superiority for the NATO bloc." But to try to wreck the correlation of forces that has emerged in Europe is tantamount to undermining the very foundation of the detente process. Who stands to gain from this? Only the forces who are striving to turn Europe into an arena of struggle for achieving their own ends without considering that while they are doing this they are imperiling the fates of the European peoples.

This is understood by sober-minded politicians not only in Europe but also in the United States. Thus, the eminent figure of the U.S. Democratic Party, Senator McGovern, said several days ago: "I would like to hope that our European friends do not follow the advice of certain circles and will not be in a hurry to agree to the deployment of new tactical nuclear weapons on their territory. To act in this manner would mean to exclude the possibility of mutual arms reductions in Europe. The representatives of the Soviet Union have recently presented initiatives directed at reducing the number of their troops and tanks in Eastern Europe. They have spoken of the possibility of reducing the number of medium-range missiles. These initiatives must be weighed carefully. We must put our answer on the discussion table and not ignore the talks by thoughtlessly building up new tactical arms."

And finally, NATO plans are diametrically opposed to the course of Helsinki. The measures being proposed by NATO, as was pointed out by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, would aggravate the situation in Europe and would, to a great extent, poison the international atmosphere in general. It would inevitably affect the development of inter-European cooperation. Who would be the winner in such a turn of events? Not the people of Europe, quite clearly.

At the moment NATO circles are persistently putting forward the idea that the decision to produce the new missiles, adopted at a session of that organization's Council, has allegedly created "better prerequisites" for talks with the USSR. The absurdity of such an idea is clear.

In fact, if its authors believe that they could achieve any success in talking with the USSR "from a position of strength," then they are making a gross miscalculation. Our country never has and never will allow itself to be pressured by anyone.

Elementary logic, too, rebels against the idea of "first build up arms [dovooruzhatsya] and then disarm."

Indeed, why make weapons one does not intend to deploy in their positions? Or why bring any weapons to Europe in order to then try to reach agreement on taking them out? No honest political or simply upright person would be able to agree with such an approach.

Those who are aware of their responsibility for peace cannot but agree with the thought set out by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev in reply to a question by a PRAVDA correspondent: It is now exceptionally important to insure that hasty action is not taken which might complicate the situation and hamper the achievement of positive results.

The new peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and its proposal to start talks on issues which are of such great significance for peace and the security of the peoples of Europe have met with widespread support. Many political parties of various leanings, trade union and public organizations, and statesmen and politicians in a number of countries responded to them positively. This is quite understandable since the position of the USSR expresses the vital interests of the popular masses and their striving not to allow a nuclear war to be unleashed.

And thus, action will have to be taken, and to take action in present-day conditions, we think, is possible and necessary only on one plane: Not by words, but by deeds, by taking steps toward halting the arms race, by acting jointly to prevent war ever breaking out on European soil.

Expressing the will of the Soviet people Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said on 7 November this year: "The international situation is now such that it does not demand general words about peace and disarmament but real steps to curb the arms race and to consolidate the trust between peoples and states. It is notably, according to specific deeds drawing us closer to this end, that peoples will judge the policies of governments, parties, states and public figures.

"As regards the Soviet Union, then it together with the fraternal countries of socialism is making and will make its great contribution to strengthening peace. We are ready for new constructive talks and new practical steps if others answer in kind."

The implementation of the Soviet proposals on reducing arms in Europe is a great and important step toward the consolidation of detente and universal peace.

IZVESTIYA HAILS RAPPROCHEMENT, COLLABORATION OF SOCIALIST BLOC

LD071223 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Nov 79 Morning Edition p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Bulwark of Peace and Social Progress"]

[Text] The rapprochement of the fraternal socialist community countries is a mark of our era and a natural law of the development of the world system of socialism. This process expresses the age-old dream of the best minds of mankind for "future times when the peoples, forgetting their disputes, will unite into a great family." In the socialist community the brother-peoples share their joys and troubles and are always ready to help each other with advice and their accumulated experience.

"The more diverse it is, the better and richer joint experience will be and the surer and quicker the successes of socialism...." so wrote V.I. Lenin at the dawn of Soviet power in his renowned article "How to Organize Competition?" The revolutionary, constructive creativity of the working masses of the land of the soviets who, guided by the party of the communists, were the first to build a developed socialist society, created that very rich treasury of historical experience which has been drawn upon and continues to be drawn upon by the peoples who have embarked on the path of a new life. Evidence of this is provided by the unfading interest displayed in the fraternal socialist countries for the CPSU documents and the works of L. I. Brezhnev and the CPSU's other leaders. The communists of the community countries are also familiarizing themselves with interest with the materials of the recent All-Union Conference of Ideological Workers. Questions of the comprehensive approach toward political, labor and moral education with a consideration for the features of different groups of working people, of enhancing the effectiveness of the entire ideological and propagandist front set by our party are also topical for our friends.

Now that Poland, Bulgaria and Romania have already celebrated the 35th anniversary of people's power and other East European socialist countries are preparing to celebrate it, and now that the GDR has already celebrated its 30th anniversary, all members of the socialist community have valuable experience of social transformations, economic and cultural building, the formation of the new man, and the gradual all-round rapprochement of the fraternal countries. The profound study and creative use of this experience enables us all to accelerate the tempo of our advance.

The international exchange of the experience, accumulated knowledge and spiritual values now characterizes all spheres of our life--from the production teams to the creative unions, from the Komsomol organizations to the academies of science. The movement of twinned cities and oblasts has been greatly developed, producing an increasingly marked practical return.

Direct ties between labor collectives are acquiring special importance. Joint engineering developments and seminars of advanced experience, the exchange of workers teams who, as guests, take their places at lathes and familiarize their colleagues with their work methods--these are all phenomena inherent precisely in the socialist way of life and becoming increasingly typical as socialist economic integration is intensified.

At many major construction sites, international collectives are formed which are a school not only for advanced methods of work but also for communist education. Their experience merits the closest attention. The decision to generalize the experience of the work of the international collective at the construction of the Soyuz gas pipelines with a view to using it in further joint activity, taken by the Intergovernmental Commission for Cooperation in installing this very large integration project, was no accident.

Speaking in Berlin at the ceremonial session on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the GDR's formation, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev stressed: "The experience of our collaboration in all spheres is a convincing example of the invincible strength of socialist solidarity. And our joint will is to insure that this continue to be the case."

We work together on the scaffolding of the construction sites and in the hard struggle for the consolidation of peace and the intensification of international detente and against any futile aggressive impulses on the part of the imperialist forces. All progressive mankind is well aware that the Soviet Union and the socialist community are the main bulwark of peace and that socialism and peace are indivisible.

...The red calico, inscribed with October slogans, which decorates the streets of our cities and villages, will also bear an appeal to our friends and fellow-fighters for the common cause: "Fraternal greetings to the peoples of the socialist countries! May the world socialist system--the decisive force in the anti-imperialist struggle and the bastion of peace, democracy and social progress--develop and strengthen!

USSR EXPORTING MORE OIL TO CEMA STATES, GAS, COAL EXTRACTION UP

ID161322 Moscow World Service in English 0400 GMT 16 Nov 79 LD

[Text] The Soviet Union has stepped up its exports of oil to the member-countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance at their request. This year the Soviet oil exports have gone up by 10 percent and reached a total of 80 million tons. The figure was released by the council's Secretariat here in Moscow. The Soviet Union will export a record amount of oil despite the fact that the extraction of oil has somewhat slowed down because of complicated weather conditions. Within the country this lag will be made up for by a 9 percent increase in the extraction of natural gas and coal.

BULGARIAN FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER DISCUSSES CEMA TIES

ID151126 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 14 Nov 79 LD

[Text] The Soviet Union has begun talks with the countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance on the conclusion of trade agreements for next year. This matter came up for discussion in Moscow today with Bulgaria's foreign trade minister, Khristo Khristov. The Soviet Union expects a growth in trade with all the countries of the council. According to preliminary figures, this year it is to grow by 10 percent. For the harmonious development of their economies the member-states of the community have expanded the exchange of technology. Besides, the Soviet Union has increased the delivery of raw materials including oil, gas and metal ores.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD181752 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 18 Nov 79 LD

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Vsevolod Shiskovskiy, all-union radio commentator; Vladimir Konstantinovich Katin, APN political observer; and Vladimir Borisovich Lomeyko, political observer of LITERATURNAYA GAZETA]

[Text] [Shishkovsky] Good Day comrades. Numerous commentaries published in the different press organs abroad and the statements of eminent statesmen and public figures bear witness to the huge interest in and the approval of the progressive world public for the new important initiatives put forward by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev on 6 October in Berlin and developed in his reply to a PRAVDA correspondent. The initiatives are being regarded as a new and convincing confirmation of the firm striving of the land of the soviets to avert a new surge forward in the arms race and to step on to the path of real disarmament. The progressive press of the whole world, in connection with this, is emphasizing that the Soviet initiatives respond to the vital interests of the peoples of Europe and other continents, and so they are being welcomed by everyone for whom the cause of peace and security is dear.

Soviet Peace Initiatives

As is stressed in the editorial article in PRAVDA "For Talks Instead of New Arms," the proposals put forward by Comrade Brezhnev on behalf of the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community deal with the further development of peaceful relations in the European Continent and include, one may say, a program for the consolidation of peace in Europe.

The first important element of the program consists in the fact that it points to a way to reduce the quantity of nuclear weapons on European soil. The Soviet Union is ready, as a gesture of good will, to reduce unilaterally, in comparison with the present level, the quantity of medium-range nuclear weapons which are deployed in the western regions of the USSR, if no additional medium-range nuclear weapons are deployed in West Europe. At the same time, the Soviet Union, as was stated by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev in reply to a question from a PRAVDA newspaper correspondent, is proposing the immediate beginning of talks on the reduction of medium-range nuclear weapons which are deployed in Europe.

The second element of our peace program for Europe is contained in the proposal to all states that took part in the all-European conference to refuse to be the first to use against one another both nuclear and non-nuclear weapons. The Soviet Union, for its own part, has clearly stated that it will never use nuclear weapons against those states which refuse to produce and acquire such weapons and which do not have them on their territory.

The third element of the peace program for Europe concerns the reduction of conventional weapons. As is known, the Soviet Union has made a decision to reduce unilaterally the number of Soviet troops in central Europe. It is a matter here of the withdrawal of up to 20,000 Soviet servicemen, 1,000 tanks and also a certain quantity of other military equipment.

Finally, the fourth element of the program consists in the fact that the USSR and its allies are proposing to the Western powers that measures be taken to strengthen trust.

Let us especially stress that the implementation of the Soviet proposals would give no unilateral advantages to the Soviet Union or any socialist country. All the countries of the continent would gain from their realization.

If one is to talk of the progress in the discussion of our proposals in the West, then one must immediately note that it is proceeding extremely slowly. Already more than a month has passed since the moment when the new important proposals regarding the solution of a whole complex of questions concerning military detente in Europe were formulated in Berlin. We declared that we were ready to come to the negotiating table and begin the discussion of these questions immediately with the West. However, our partners, who have for a long time now been waging a broad propaganda campaign in favor of stepping up arms in the West, are clearly in no hurry.

They have put forward the thesis--first arms and only then talks with the Soviet Union.

[Katin] The Western conception of the need to intensify defense is based on the fact that the Soviet Union possesses a superiority in nuclear arms, and so it is necessary to deploy in West Europe new nuclear weapons with the made in the United States label. However, this does not correspond to reality, since in recent years an approximate balance has formed on the European Continent between the NATO and Warsaw Treaty countries, both in nuclear missile weapons and in conventional weapons. This conclusion, by the way, has been recently confirmed by the international Institute for Strategic Studies in London.

I would like to recall the recent statement of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev in Berlin that over the last 10 years the quantity of nuclear weapon carriers on the territory of the European part of the Soviet Union has not been increased by a single missile. On the contrary, it has been decreased. Furthermore, the Soviet Union, as is known, does not deploy such weapons at all on the territory of other states. Over the same period the number of nuclear charges at the disposal of the United States has doubled in West Europe since 1970.

Let me remind you that at present in West Europe there exist 1,500 forward-based weapons facilities of the United States, Britain and France. All of them are aimed at the Soviet Union. Moreover, NATO has at its disposal 5 submarines armed with Poseidon missile and carrying up to 800 nuclear charges. All of these also have targets on the territory of the Soviet Union.

At the present time 5 NATO countries are preparing to make a decision on the deployment of about another 600 Pershing II strategic missiles and cruise missiles. There also will be aimed at the Soviet Union, but now at its remote regions. This cannot but evoke in us a legitimate concern.

[Lomeyko] Valdimir Konstantinovich, I would like to say a few words about the fact that a great deal of propaganda, as you have already said, has unfolded in the West concerning the imaginary imbalance in favor of the Warsaw Treaty countries. I have just paid a visit to West Germany, Denmark and Holland where I talked with many parliamentarians, leaders of political parties and military specialists. One is struck by a certain interesting regular feature. First and foremost, the more competent people are in questions of foreign policy and in questions of arms, the less they support the talk of the so-called imbalance, recongizing the presence of parity.

I would like to cite in particular the statements of such prominent specialists as former Gen Nino Pasti, a former deputy commander in chief of armed forces in Europe and now an Italian senator, whom I met in October, and also General von Baudissin, a former deputy chief of staff of the NATO forces European Supreme Command and a specialist in strategic planning. Both of them state that there is at present an approximate balance of forces and it is hardly likely to change by the middle of the 1980's, but it is precisely this that is being stressed by Western propagandists. So we get the following picture: that specialists recognize the balance but the propagandists disclaim it, and under cover of these arguments, they are trying to prove the need to deploy the new U.S. missiles in Europe.

In connection with this, taking into consideration the great opposition of the public in the countries of the West, they are attempting to put the minds of those who have doubts and who are hesitating at rest by stating the following: Let us not be dramatic about the situation. NATO, they say, will just upgrade its arms a bit and from this position will begin talks with the Soviet Union. This is one of the most dangerous illusions that we have to deal with.

I would like to say that Washington has officially made it quite clear that it is in agreement only with a simultaneous solution to both questions. The propagandists are also using a second thesis. They are talking about the fact that in Brussels, at the session of the NATO Council, perhaps a decision will be made only about the production of the missiles. After this the West will propose to the Soviet Union that talks be held, and during the 3 to 4 years which, allegedly, remain before the deployment of these missiles, it will be possible to reach an agreement on the nondeployment of them or just on a partial deployment. This is the second argument, an illusion which is being introduced into the propaganda in order to put the minds of those who are having doubts and protesting at rest.

I would like to say that the talk of a pause of several years for negotiations is not real because, as the military specialists note, there has not yet been a case in history when a new weapon has been produced and not accepted for the armory.

For those who doubt this, the supporters of the arms race will find a dozen new pretexts to prove the latest Soviet threat. The latest unfounded hysteria in the United States on the subject of Soviet military personnel in Cuba is a good example for fans of illusions. The main point, however, is that should NATO adopt the decision to produce and deploy the new missiles, the chances of successful talks will be ruined, for a new strategic situation will arise on the continent.

[Shishkovskiy] For my part I should like to stress that such a prospect would unquestionably worsen considerably the position of the NATO member-countries who will be the holders of U.S. strategic nuclear weapons, with all the ensuing suicidal consequences. Covered by a network of U.S. bases and missiles, West Europe could turn out, without noticing it, to be a U.S. prisoner, incapable of independent political action, and it will then be difficult for it to extricate itself from this straitjacket. What is the way out of this vicious circle?

[Katin] In my view, there is only one alternative: to seriously undertake talks on lowering the military confrontation in Europe. There are no types of weapons or military problems which the Soviet Union would not be prepared to talk with the West about. This is the key to breaking the vicious circle of the arms race. I believe that there is no shortage of initiatives from our country.

Our country has already proposed to the West that a treaty should be concluded among the participants of the Helsinki conference on not being the first to use either nuclear or conventional weapons. Our country is prepared to conduct talks on systems of nuclear missile weapons which have so far not been covered by agreements between the USSR and the United States.

[Lomeyko] This readiness of the Soviet Union to hold talks without delay on all the issues which trouble the West has elicited great support among the public in many NATO countries. The heightening debate among the public and in political circles on the question of the expediency of bringing armaments up to strength, as it is called, alarms rightwingers in West Europe and Washington. During my trip to West European countries, I noticed the following regular feature: The more support being given to Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's proposal for immediate talks aimed not at raising but lowering the level of the nuclear potential of East and West, the stronger the pressure applied by Washington and the West European hawks on those who waver or argue against hasty action. Witnesses of meetings with the U.S. delegation, led by David Aaron, which made an emergency visit to Bonn, Rome, The Hague and other West European capitals, told me of the categorical tone and overt pressure of the Washington emissaries.

The increasingly sharp debate in the NATO countries testifies to the fact that the line of differences and contradictions on this issue passes not between traditional parties but inside them and across them. New conglomerates of political forces have in essence now emerged in the United States and the other NATO countries: on the one hand, a kind of party of equilibrium, drawing its membership from those who recognize the established equality of forces between East and West as the sole real basis of international relations; and, on the other hand, the party of superiority, made up of those who would like to bring back the lost military superiority of the United States and its allies, in particular by means of deploying new U.S. missiles in Europe. That is why the pressure from Washington is currently increasing against all who oppose deployment. The latest session of the nuclear planning group in The Hague showed that there, too, Washington attempted to go in for arm-twisting against the doubters and the waverers.

It must be said that Washington and the rightwingers have a new assistant in this affair, a new accomplice in putting pressure on the West Europeans. It was no coincidence, as was noted by many political observers in the West, that Hua Guofeng paid his visit to West Germany and other West European countries at the crucial moment when the debate in NATO on the question of the new round of armaments was at its height. His open calls for the creation of a strong West Europe and his lying assertions about a growing threat against it--with allusions to the Soviet Union, and, in certain cases, with open statements on that account--pursued the same end: to support the NATO militarist circles and to help them to encumber Europeans with a new nuclear yoke. All these events illustrate the fact that a historically unprecedented battle is developing in the West over whether Europe will follow the path of the further strengthening of detente, or whether it will take the path of stepping up new armaments. This question is now on the agenda in many parliaments and stands before the public in the Western countries.

British Position

[Shishkovskiy] Vladimir Borisovich, it seems to me that it would be apt at this point to say a few words about the position taken by Britain on these issues.

The point is that the Conservatives who have come into office have made it clear almost immediately that they are not interested in alleviating international tension and achieving agreement on lowering the level of military confrontation between the member-states of NATO and the Warsaw Treaty organizations. Taking cover behind talk of disarmament, they strive to give a further twist to the spiral of the arms race. There is more than enough evidence of this. One is led to this conclusion also by an analysis of recent statements by Prime Minister Thatcher and Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, speaking on the BBC. The essence of the political line of the British Conservatives is expressed in a key phrase of Mrs Thatcher's: If we wish to hold talks on disarmament, then we should do so from a position of strength, and not from a position of weakness. As for Lord Carrington, in militating for arming NATO with new U.S. missiles to supplement the present forward-based nuclear weapons capable of reaching the territory of the USSR, he declares: If we do not make this decision, then we will find outselves arguing in the categories of the last century. The British lord naively believes that the world has not changed a bit, and that now, as before, it suffices to produce more weapons to guarantee the West's leading role.

Indeed, as has already repeatedly been stressed and as you were saying today, Vladmir Konstantinovich, a rough equality has been established between NATO and the Warsaw Treaty forces. Moreover, the USSR not only does not blackmail the West, but, on the contrary, following the spirit and letter of the Helsinki Final Act, it constantly makes one proposal after another for the reciprocal reduction of armaments, while strictly observing the principle of the equal security of the sides.

The British Conservatives, as we see, subscribe to a different point of view. In the words of Mrs Thatcher: The policy which is the best insurance against a third world war consists in looking after our own armed forces. As we see, the British Tories take an extremely unseemly stand on the issues of military detente.

Hua's European Visit

[Katin] I should like to say by way of confirmation of what you have just said that the British press, too, played up the Hua Guofeng visit to a far greater degree than could be said of the press in other West European countries. Thus, in particular, the British GUARDIAN called Hua Guofeng a very good European, and wrote that China is a nuclear power of the second rank. In these descriptions there seems to be a desire to support China's military aspirations and to help it to arm in order to act together against the Warsaw Treaty countries.

The same GUARDIAN wrote that in Italy Hua supported the idea of the deployment in Europe of U.S. nuclear weapons with a greater range of operation. But I should say that not all the press approached the reporting of Hua Guofeng's visit in this fashion. Many newspapers, in particular Italian ones, noted that during his visit Hua Guofeng did not achieve those aims which he had set himself. In this connection I should like to cite IL SOLE-24 ORE which wrote that there was a general sigh of relief in the ruling circles of Europe when Hua Guofeng left.

The Chinese diversionary produced many unpleasant minutes for Schmidt and Giscard d'Estaing. He placed them in an unpleasant situation like a drunken guest or a lady with a lowcut neckline appearing among conservatively dressed women at a charity bazaar. Hua Guofeng's mission in Europe, despite all the protocol assurances, was not crowned with success.

Danger of Nuclear Weapons

[Shishkovskiy] It is obvious that in the present age the very notion of military superiority is losing any meaning with the existence of the vast arsenals which have already been amassed in Europe of nuclear weapons and means for their delivery. The only realistic way out is to attentively consider what is being called for by our country--namely, sitting down at the table to discuss the problem of military detente and what is at the heart of it--medium-range missiles. At present it is still not too late to do so. What do you think about this, Vladimir Konstantinovich?

[Katin] It is indeed not too late, after all nuclear weapons are special weapons, I would say extreme weapons, whose use could annihilate altogether all forms of life on earth. For this reason one is especially concerned over the United States' irresponsible attitude to such weapons. I have in mind the false alert which occurred recently at the North America air force command post at Colorado Springs. Washington, you see, put it all down to a technical error. It is quite some error when interceptor aircraft were put up into the air and missile bases throughout the entire country were put on a state of limited combat readiness. It turned out that through some sort of error the early warning system was fed information about the combat launching of missiles by a Soviet submarine. The alert lasted just 6 minutes, but what if it had been protracted? Imagine how events might have developed if another country in response to this had also declared a combat alert. There is a saying that it is dangerous to play with fire. But in the final analysis fire can always be extinguished. However, if man loses control of the flames of nuclear weapons, it will then be impossible to stop them. One has a state of affairs here where a technical error in a computer or the whim of an unbalanced individual could become fateful for all mankind. And incidentally this latest occurrence of a false alert is not an isolated phenomenon. Such alerts have already occurred several times at U.S. bases. The more nuclear missiles are deployed on this globe, the greater will be the danger of a global catastrophe, and correspondingly, the opposite.

[Lomeyko] What you have just been saying, Vladimir Konstantinovich, emphisizes once again the danger which lies in wait for West Europe if new U.S. missiles are deployed on its territory, and it must be said that this danger is being realized by ever broader circles of West Europeans. The question may arise as to why, realizing this danger, people cannot at the same time find a way for coping with it. After all a chance does exist which is contained in the Soviet Union's proposals for an immediate sitting down at the negotiating table and the reaching of an agreement on the lowering of military level before it is raised. It must be said that those Western specialists who are deeply acquainted with this problem admit, unfortunately, it is true, more often in private conversations than in the press, that the decision on the new missiles was adopted within the narrow circle of the nuclear club several years ago now--according to a statement by Apel, the FRG defense minister, back in 1975.

So one has a state of affairs where a decision on the most important matter for the fate of millions of people is made by a narrow circle of people. Now, by firing off a lengthy broadside about the so-called Soviet threat they want to lead the people into agreeing to accept new missiles on their territory. It must be said that the chief motivating force is the interests of ever the same military-industrial complex. The French LES ECHOS carried an article about this recently. The newspaper noted that--and I quote--the building, supplying and deployment in West Europe of 1,000 or 1,200 nuclear missiles--even these figures are being spoken about in NATO corridors--is in any event a major deal for American industry. LES ECHOS has thus referred outright to the main reason for the present situation in West Europe.

During my stay in West Germany, the Netherlands and Denmark I had occasion to speak with many people who stressed the need of adopting the most resolute measures against NATO's forthcoming decision. But in this respect it is very rarely that any of the politicians risks speaking openly in the press. This is to be explained very simply. The Americans, as we have already noted, are applying all sort of pressure--both direct and indirect--with the assistance of their allies in West Europe on all those who are opposed to this decision. It must be said that the Western press does not reflect the mood of the publics in their countries. At a time when the number of people who are against the deployment of these missiles is increasing, the press is as a rule providing its space to those who are arguing in support. Let me give you an example. In West Germany there came into my hands a statement by a group of Bundeswehr soldiers, who were protesting against the forthcoming NATO decision on new missiles. This would appear to be an exceptional and rare occurence, but it was reflected only on the pages of the youth magazine ELAN and UNSERE ZEIT, while the press at large maintained silence over this fact.

In conclusion, in speaking about this theme, I would like to say that the public and political circles of West Europe are faced with the issue of not missing a chance, an historic chance, for sitting down at the negotiating table with the Soviet Union in order to reach agreement on the nondeployment of new missiles and on the withdrawal of part of the missiles from Soviet territory, about which Leonid Ilich spoke in his proposal.

[Katin] Incidentally, many such chances exist in Europe. Let us take, for instance, the Soviet Union's latest initiative which was expounded by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev in Berlin on 6 October. He spoke of the readiness of the Soviet Union to reduce the number of medium-range nuclear weapons in the western parts of the country if there is no additional deployment of such weapons in West Europe. But if such weapons are nevertheless deployed there, this will doubtlessly force the Soviet Government to take corresponding security measures.

[Shishkovskiy] The time for our broadcast is coming to an end. I thank my colleagues, who took part in today's roundtable discussion, and take leave of you, esteemed comrade listeners. Until our next meeting! All the best!

ALL-EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TALKS ENDS

LD161304 Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 16 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, Nobember 16, TASS--TASS observer Sergey Stoklitskiy writes: The all-European high level conference on cooperation in the field of environmental protection convened under the aegis of the UN Economic Commission for Europe has closed in Geneva. It adopted a number of important documents concerning specific measures to combat environmental pollution.

Summing up the results of the Geneva meeting, it must be stressed in the first place that it has been an important milestone on the way of strengthening mutual understanding between the peoples and further development of international cooperation for the benefit of peoples, in the interests of peace both in the European Continent and all over the world. This is understandable, as the solution of ecology problems is most directly linked with questions pertaining to the establishment of a climate of international confidence, in the first place because the effort to combat environmental pollution directly concerns the life of the entire mankind and not only of the present, but also of the future generations. The cloudy problem has no national boundaries. It can be resolved only by the joint efforts of the peoples of the world.

Another thing is important. The decisions taken at Geneva as well as the very fact of convocation of such a representative conference became possible only due to the development of favourable trends in international political life.

It is important to point out that the proposal on the holding of an all-European conference on cooperation in the field of environmental protection, development of transport and energetics was put forward by General Secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev precisely in the context of implementation of the provisions of the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference. The Soviet initiatives met with ardent support from many governments and broadest public circles.

In its turn, and this was stressed in the speeches by many delegates to the conference, the constructive and businesslike discussion of ecology problem opens the way for broadening all-European cooperation and resolving other global problems of concern to mankind. As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, it has repeatedly come out with initiatives in this respect directed in the long run at protecting mankind from the disastrous consequences of spending our planet's limited resource on arms race and using them for the benefit of peoples.

Brezhnev Message

LD191029 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Nov 79 p 1 LD

[Text of message from Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU CC and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet to the Geneva environmental protection conference]

[Text] To the participants in the all-European high-level conference on cooperation in the sphere of environmental protection:

I cordially greet the participants in the European high-level conference on cooperation in environmental protection. I believe that this representative meeting, held in development of the ideas of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, will be a major step in the strengthening of mutual understanding and further development of international cooperation for the benefit of the peoples, for the sake of peace on the European Continent and throughout the world.

The convocation of this conference was facilitated by a number of favourable trends in international political affairs. The principles of peaceful coexistence are striking ever firmer roots in the practice of international relations. Conditions for the consolidation of peace and the development of cooperation were created as a result of the successful conclusion of the Helsinki Conference. The signing of the SALT II treaty was an event of great importance. In agreement with the other socialist states, the Soviet Union recently took another major initiative prompted by solicitude for the strengthening of security in Europe.

The task of the European conference to deepen and develop cooperation in environmental protection and thus to promote an improvement in the lives of people and the protection of their health, more rational utilization of natural resources, is close and clear to us all.

We do not only implement an extensive program of environmental protection and rational utilization of the wealth of nature in our country, but are actively cooperating and ready to further develop cooperation with other countries, too, in environmental protection, including also within the frameworks of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, which sponsored this conference. In the future, too, the Soviet Union is going to promote in every way efforts for the expansion of mutually-advantageous cooperation of European countries, the United States and Canada in the sphere of environmental protection.

May I wish the participants in the conference successful work and the adoption of important decisions on the protection and improvement of the environment for the benefit of all the peoples.

[Signed] L. Brezhnev

Kirillin Interview

LD151230 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 14 Nov 79 LD

[Anatoliy Potapov interview in Geneva with Valdimir Kirillin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers--date not specified; recorded]

[Text] [Question] Vladimir Alekseyevich, what in your view is the international significance of this all-European forum in Geneva?

[Answer] As you know, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has proposed the holding of high-level all-European conferences on cooperation in the sphere of environmental protection, power engineering and transport. The first of these conferences, the conference on the problem of environmental protection, has opened in Geneva. The importance of this problem is especially stressed in the Final Act of the Helsinki conference on security and cooperation in Europe.

In the Soviet Union extensive plan-governed work on protection and improvement of the environment is being carried out, and we are convinced advocates of the development of international cooperation in this sphere which is of vital importance for all mankind. The successful solution of tasks in environmental protection is possible only in conditions of stable peace and effective international cooperation. The conference in Geneva represents an important step forwarded along the road of realization of the accords reached in Helsinki.

"SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN" MEETING OPENS

LD161912 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 16 Nov 79 LD

[Text] A meeting was held in Kabul opening the week of solidarity with the people of Afghanistan. The meeting was organized on the initiative of AAPSO. Guests from South Yemen, Guinea, Sri Lanka and the Soviet Union, members of the Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, the government of the country, and representatives of the public gathered in the hall of the Kabul Polytechnical Institute, which was decorated with slogans praising the April revolution in Afghanistan.

AAPSO delegates who spoke at the meeting stated their firm determination to support Democratic Afghanistan, which is carrying out a just struggle against the schemes of imperialism and reaction. They expressed the conviction that the heroic people of Afghanistan will achieve victory in the end.

CARTER SPEECH ON IRAN EVENTS, SITUATION IN TEHRAN NOTED

LD191125 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Nov 79 p 5 LD

[PRAVDA headline: "On American-Iranian Relations"]

[Text] Speaking at the convention of the AFL-CIO trade union association, which opened here, President Carter devoted main attention to the crisis in U.S.-Iranian relations. We, he stated, are trying to use all ways and means for a diplomatic solution to the problem and at the same time are taking measures unilaterally.

The President recalled that this week he ordered the immediate discontinuation of all purchases and deliveries of Iranian oil to the United States as well as to freeze the official Iranian property and financial assets.

President Carter stated that he instructed the immigration authorities to look through the visas of approximately 50,000 Iranian students who are studying in the USA.

Commenting on the President's speech the New York TIMES emphasizes that that was the toughest speech which Jimmy Carter ever made during his presidency.

News agencies report with reference to U.S. official spokesmen that the efforts which the United States is making for the release of the U.S. hostages have not produced any results up to now. A State Department spokesman confirmed that Ramsey Clark, the President's special envoy, who was sent to the Middle East for these purposes, was recalled to Washington for consultations.

At a meeting in Qom with members of the Council of Experts who presented to Khomeyni the new draft constitution of Iran, the Iranian leader sharply criticized the United States for the decision to freeze Iran's assets in U.S. banks and for backing the shah who is a criminal.

It became known here that Iran decided to close four Iranian consulates in the United States--in New York, Chicago, Houston and Los Angeles.

Anti-American demonstrations are being held outside the United States Embassy in the Iranian capital. Students, Ayatollah Khomeyni's supporters, who continue holding the U.S. embassy, stressed in a statement that they made over the telephone to representatives of the U.S. Department of State and which was broadcast over local radio that they obey only Ayatollah Khomeyni and will not agree to any compromise until the former shah is extradited.

CONGRESSMAN URGES THAT IRANIAN GOVERNMENT BE REPLACED

LD171917 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 17 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Washington--A U.S. State Department spokesman has given a new assurance that the military maneuvers being held at the present time by the U.S. Armed Forces are not connected with the Iranian events. At the same time Rhodes, leader of the Republican minority in the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress, has urged that efforts be made to replace the present Iranian Government for another one.

OIL COUNTRIES DENY INCREASING SUPPLIES TO U.S.

LD172030 Moscow TASS in English 2003 GMT 17 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Cairo, November 17, TASS--The governments of a number of oil producing countries refuted reports by foreign news agencies that they had allegedly expressed readiness to increase oil supplies to the USA in connection with the decision of the U.S. authorities to give up oil imports from Iran. Thus, Saudi Arabian Minister of Defence and Aviation Prince Sultan Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz pointed out in a statement for the press that these reports are a fabrication and are totally unfounded.

The inventions by the agencies have been also refuted by Qatar's Minister of Finance and Petroleum, Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani.

BELYAYEV VIEWS BACKGROUND TO CREATION OF 'QUICK REACTION CORPS'

LD161357 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian on 14 November 1979 carries on page 14 a 2,400-word article by I. Belyayev entitled "Operation Oilfields" which described events leading up to the formation of the U.S. 'quick reaction corps" designed for occupation of the oil fields in the Persian Gulf zone if oil supplies to the United States are threatened. The article begins:

"The Near East is once again in a ferment as a result of protests against U.S. imperialist policy. These have particularly intensified since the appearance of the American plan to create the so-called "quick reaction corps' designed to occupy the oil-producing countries in the Persian Gulf Zone. The current explosion of anti-Americanism in Iran is one of the manifestations of these sharp protests. Together with other peoples of the Near East the Iranians are demanding the renunciation of 'gunboat diplomacy'.

"The development of events linked with the formation of the "quick reaction corps" is related in this article by LITERATURNAYA GAZETA's own correspondent in the Near East countries."

The article goes on to describe these events mentioned a report compiled by John M. Collins and Clyde R. Mark, research workers in the U.S. Library of Congress last April entitled "The Import of Oil From Persian Gulf Countries: The Utilization of U.S. Armed Forces To Insure Supplies." The report says that the United States could send its forces into these countries for two reasons: If rulers of these states request that the United States should intervene if the danger of the loss of oil fields should arise as a result of internal unrest, or if the Persian Gulf countries declare an embargo on oil supplies to the United States.

In conclusion Belyayev writes: "Thus it is a question of a completely obvious American military threat in the Near East--a threat hanging primarily over the oil-producing countries in the Persian Gulf and all Arab countries pursuing an independent national policy. It is no less obvious that this threat extends far beyond the bounds of the region. An American 'semiwar,' let us say, on the Arabian Peninsula would inflict a colossal damage to the cause of peace and security of all peoples. Do Arab politicians realize this? I think they do. Thus in Kuwait those with whom I spoke including also members of the government said that they would not tolerate any interference whatsoever from the United States in the internal affairs of Persian Gulf states." Belyayev also points out that American arms did not help the shah of Iran and that his antinational policy led his regime to total collapse.

ACCELERATION OF ESTABLISHMENT OF U.S. BASES IN MIDEAST

LD190045 Moscow TASS in English 1410 GMT 18 Nov 79 LD

[Text] New York, November 18, TASS--Within the framework of a considerable expansion of its military presence in the Middle East, the United States is speeding up the establishment of new military bases and facilities there.

As the New York TIMES newpaper reported, American engineers and construction teams arrived at Negev Desert in Israel and began building two air bases which are to "supplant" the airfields which are to be transferred to Egypt under the provisions of the so-called Israel-Egyptian "peace" treaty. The newspaper emphasizes that special importance is being attached to the project, and, according to plans, they should be completed much earlier than scheduled. The newspaper points out that the two airfields are to receive the first fighter planes at the second half of April 1982.

According to the newspaper, the United States agreed to pay 800 million dollars to Tel Aviv out of 1,000 million dollars which, according to preliminary estimates, is to be spent for the construction of the two bases, as compensation for the "loss" of the Sinai airfields.

According to reports by the New York TIMES, Israel began building under the direction of American specialists a third military airfield in the area of Be'er Sheva'.

As the U.S. press points out, the Sinai airfields which will be formally under Egypt's control, and the air bases in Israel will serve U.S. aviation the number of which is to sharply increase in the Middle East region in the coming years. The Pentagon is planning, in particular, to use the bases in Sinai and Negev Desert as a trans-shipment point for so-called quick reaction corps which is being knocked together and which is intended for protecting U.S. interests in hot spots of the globe, and, first of all, in the Near and Middle East and in the Persian Gulf area.

Such military preparations by Washington cannot but arouse concern among peace-loving Arab states which view them as a serious threat to their independence and sovereignty.

COMMENTARY ON SENATE DISCUSSION OF MFN STATUS FOR PRC

LD162138 Moscow TASS in English 2105 GMT 16 Nov 79 LD

["Direct Connection"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, November 16, TASS--TASS political analyst Vladimir Goncharov writes:

The Senate Finance Committee is now considering the U.S.-Chinese trade agreement that was submitted by President Carter to Congress for ratification. At the same time the senators are discussing the question of granting the Most-Favoured-Nation treatment to Beijing.

According to reports by news agencies, already at the very beginning of the discussion of these problems, a number of committee members voiced serious doubts about the wisdom of Senate approval of the administration's proposals. It is pointed out, specifically that by granting privileges to China Washington gives up its earlier proclaimed "balanced approach" to trade with the Soviet Union and the PRC. It is also noted that Beijing seeks to draw the USA into dangerous military political ventures by using commercial and economic ties.

There seem to be good reasons for such considerations. To this should be added, however, one more thing, a very important one in our opinion. It would be recalled that in its time official Washington, pursuing selfish political aims, announced respect for "basic human rights" as a condition for granting the Most-Favoured-Nation treatment to this or other country. So it turns out that now the American administration, wishing to grant privileges in trade to the Maoists, thus officially recognizes that human rights are duly observed by Beijing (sic).

Such a position looks not only paradoxical and absurd, but also shocking since all the world knows that the democratic rights of Chinese citizens, far from being observed, are most grossly violated. China has not yet acceded to any of the nineteen international human rights covenants and conventions. Now, thirty years after the establishment of the PRC, it remains, perhaps, the only country in the world which has neither criminal, nor civil or procedural codes. Mass reprisals continue unabated there for many years in the conditions of complete lawlessness.

Finally--and this must be mentioned specially--the Beijing leaders bear the main responsibility for the outrages of their puppets--the Pol Pot clique in much-suffering Kampuchea. In the course of more than three years, "a Maoist experiment" was being carried out in that country, an experiment which cost the lives of three and a half million people. Each passing day brings ever new facts to the world, ever new details of the Kampuchean tragedy. Here is for instance, one of the latest reports transmitted by the Kampuchean news agency. Ninety per cent of the Kampuchean intelligentsia, people who were doing creative work, died at concentration camps that were established by Pol Pot's men on instructions from the Maoists. Out of 300 journalists who worked in Kampuchea before 1975, only five survived...

It may seem at first glance that the current debate in the Senate Finance Committee and the destiny of a Chinese worker, a Chinese peasant or a Chinese teacher, who live so far from Washington, are not connected with each other. In fact there is a direct connection between them. This connection imposes a great responsibility on politicians who are discussing in Washington these days the problems of the United States' economic relations with Beijing.

PEACE AND PROGRESS ON PRC WAR PREPARATIONS AGAINST SRV

OW171423 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 1100 GMT 16 Nov 79 OW

[Glebov commentary]

[Summary from poor reception] A document carried in the Hong Kong journal EAST AND WEST was thoroughly commented on by the newspapers of the United States and other Western countries in October. "According to this document, the Military Commission of the CCPCC has put forward a report on an imaginary plan of war. Beijing may use this plan in launching another aggression against Socialist Vietnam." The document also reveals that one of the steps of this plan is to launch a surprise attack first and then to encircle Hanoi; another step is to invade Vietnam through Laos. The New York TIMES (?recently) carried an article commenting on China's preparations for launching another aggression against Vietnam. The article drops in a hint that the best way is to launch an attack from the northern region of Laos.

"We all know that in order to establish and consolidate their position in Asia, the U.S. imperialists always harbor the hope that the Asian people will fight among themselves, so that the Asian people will become weak, and Asia will constantly remain in a state of confusion. Having suffered defeat in Vietnam not too long ago, the U.S. imperialists have tried to take revenge on the Vietnamese people through China." Should China suffer any serious losses, it is no concern of the imperialists, for they do not want China to become powerful.

"It must be pointed out that the ruling clique of Beijing is very willing to cooperate with the U.S. plot. Beijing's willingness has aroused strong indignation among the people, for this is a criminal act." Maybe our listeners still recall how Deng Xiaoping tried his very best to please the U.S. imperialists during his visit to the United States. Everywhere he visited, Deng Xiaoping clamored about teaching Vietnam a lesson and taking revenge on his imperialist friends. Deng Xiaoping's promise was highly praised by the imperialist clique in Washington. Upon his return to China from the United States, China immediately mobilized a mighty army and large numbers of tanks, heavy artillery and rockets to attack the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. As we all know, 70,000 Chinese troops were wiped out and some 500 tanks and heavy artillery pieces destroyed in China's aggression against Vietnam. The world people have clearly realized that the Beijing leaders have only paid lip service to upholding the principle of peaceful coexistence and safeguarding peace. Many facts indicate that the Beijing leaders have not yet learned a thing from the lesson given to them by the Vietnamese people. Beijing has once again threatened Socialist Vietnam by clamoring for launching another aggression against Vietnam. No matter how they make war clamor, the Beijing leaders will definitely suffer shameful defeat, as all aggressors have in the past.

"With the support of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and the progressive people throughout the world, the heroic and militant Vietnamese people will surely be able to smash any plot of aggression."

AFGHAN DEMONSTRATIONS HELD IN SUPPORT OF REVOLUTION

LD110137 Moscow TASS in English 1752 GMT 10 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, November 10, TASS--Mass meetings and demonstrations were held during recent days in different towns and settlements of the Paktia Province of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The participants--peasants, workers, representatives of intelligentsia--have expressed their unanimous support for the April revolution whose goals and [word indistinct] accord with the aspirations of the working people of the country.

According to the BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY, the participants in the meetings in the towns of Saidkaram, Chimkani, Gardez have condemned the designs of home and foreign reaction and declared their readiness to protect the gains of the revolution.

GEOLOGICAL COOPERATION WITH ARGHANISTAN EXPANDED

LD171126 Moscow in Pashto to Afghanistan 1430 GMT 13 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Recently the First Session of the USSR-Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] Permanent Commission on Economic Cooperation was held in Moscow. Participants at this meeting discussed the conditions and extension of USSR-DRA economic, technical and trade cooperation. Our economic commentator writes:

The participants at the economic commission discussed geological cooperation between the USSR and the DRA and future possibilities between the two countries. They decided on practical steps, such as the construction in (Charkhodokh) district of a gas installation and the implementation of this project as soon as possible.

The commission expressed satisfaction with the geological research undertaken in the DRA by Soviet and Afghan geologists. They consider it necessary to take additional steps on gas installations in (Charkhodukh) and Khojagogerdak as regards raw material and increased production. For example, another team of geologists has been envisaged to predict earthquakes. This will prepare the ground for further geological investigations and will pave the way for making use of other additional methods.

The commission has extended research work to cover the copper mine of Logar district. All these geological investigations confirm further cooperation between the USSR and the DRA. Natural gas, copper and coal and work on other important minerals have a positive effect on Afghanistan's export market. It is sufficient to say that the export of gas to the USSR not only pays for the current geological research but, to a large extent, contributes toward the progress of other aspects of the national economy. The speeding up of geological research is a step toward regularizing the national independent economy and will assist in strengthening the government sector and achieve the aims of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the national government.

The commission has paid special attention to the completion of work at (Charkhodokh) and the start of gas production from this installation. Two million cubic meters of gas will be produced at this unit annually. This installation has equipment for purifying natural gas. Some 200 Afghan experts trained at USSR gas production installations will work at the (Charkhodokh) installation. An important aspect of the work is to train enough experts in time for this complicated enterprise.

UN DEBATE ON KAMPUCHEAN ISSUE CALLED FARCE, ILLEGAL

LD161028 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 15 Nov 79 LD

[Excerpts] In New York the UN General Assembly has completed its discussion of the so-called Kampuchean issue. Radio Moscow observer Vladimir Korotkov writes the following in this connection:

First of all it was illegal to raise this issue at all, since Kampuchea is a sovereign state and the whole matter was tantamount to interference in its domestic affairs, contrary to the will of its people and their legitimate government. The farce staged by Beijing and Washington is a follow-up of the policy which brought the long-suffering people of Kampuchea to the verge of a national catastrophe. If there is any problem of Kampuchea at all, it's that Beijing's clients, Pol Pot and Ieng Sary, killed 3 million of its population which had been 7 million.

The memory of the millions dead was sullied by the mere presence of Pol Pot and Ieng Sary representatives at the plenary session of the UN General Assembly. It became apparent during the debate that it was Beijing who had the guts to come in open support of the bloodstained clique. As to Beijing's allies in this disgraceful farce, that is the United States and some other countries, they were leaning over backwards to pose the anti-Kampuchean campaign they had unleashed as humanitarian concern for the people of that country. By making use of the procedural gimmick they (?pushed) through a resolution which ignores in fact the achievements of the Kampucheans in restoring their country, and which dictates terms. In point of fact this is nothing but interference in the internal affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea. In other words, the discussion at the United Nations had dotted the 'i's and crossed the 't's. Who are real friends of the Kampucheans and who are their enemies? Who really wants to restore that hapless nation from the rubble and ashes and who wants a comeback of the Beijing stooges?

KAMPUCHEAN ENVOY TO USSR SCORES U.S., BEIJING INTERFERENCE

LD161655 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Nov 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Press Conference of the Ambassador of the People's Republic of Kampuchea"]

[Text] Keo Prasat, ambassador of the People's Republic of Kampuchea to the USSR, held a press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists in Moscow 14 November. He spoke about the steps being taken by the people's revolutionary power to liquidate the grave consequences of the rule of the bloody pro-Beijing Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique and to normalize life for the population.

Keo Prasat resolutely rejected the false fabrications of Western and Chinese propaganda depicting the situation in Kampuchea in a distorted and false light. Beijing, the United States and other reactionary forces, he declared, are trying to interfere in the republic's internal affairs, using for this, in particular, the difficulties associated with the food shortage or trying to play out a farce with the discusion at the United Nations of the so-called "Kampuchean problem," which does not actually exist. He pointed to the irreversible nature of the changes which have occurred in Kampuchea as a result of the victory of the people's revolution. The ambassador especially emphasized the significance of the tremendous disinterested assistance which the fraternal Soviet people and other socialist countries are giving the Kampuchean people in building a peaceful, independent Kampuchea as it travels the path toward socialism.

FOOD FROM USSR, VIETNAM DISTRIBUTED IN KAMPUCHEA

LD180025 Moscow TASS in English 2053 GMT 17 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Phnom Penh, November 17, TASS--More than 20 thousand tons of food have been received and distributed among the population of Kampuchea in October this year, said Taeng Saroem, chairman of the council for the distribution of food relief in Kampuchea. The food had come from the Soviet Union, Vietnam, the other socialist countries and a number of international organisations. Specialised transport trains deliver food to the outlying districts of the country. The committees set up by the people's administration in the provinces distribute food among the most needy families.

ZORIN: RESPONSIBILITY FOR KAMPUCHEAN SITUATION LIES WITH U.S.

LD181654 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 17 Nov 79 LD

[Valentin Zorin commentary]

[Text] The talk that follows is by Valentin Zorin, political observer for Soviet television and radio, and this is what he writes:

One of the main points in the news in the United States in the past few days was Mrs Carter's visit to camps for refugees from Kampuchea. Pictorial magazines and television programs showed the First Lady surrounded by starving children. One can of course argue about the fitness of this clearly political show in typical American election campaign traditions when it concerns human tragedy. I personally think that staging such publicity with the help of the whole army of reporters who had accompanied the First Lady on her trip is a matter of political tact and a matter of taste. I don't intend discussing this aspect today, although I have very definite personal views on the subject.

What I would like to do now is to ask my listeners a question which, strange as it may be, seems to have escaped the attention of my counterparts in the U.S. media, or, if it has not, they find it wiser to keep a still tongue in their heads. The question I have in mind is really a very obvious one: Who is to blame for the tragedy that has befallen the Kampuchean people, one of the most terrible tragedies in current history? Who is to blame for the annihilation of 3 million Kampucheans and for the present plight and continual suffering of further millions. Americans are being told Vietnam is to blame for the present plight of the Kampucheans. The media are hammering home this fact day after day in some way or other, either directly or indirectly. This brainwashing must be having some effect even though it has nothing in common with the real state of affairs.

Let's examine the facts. How is it that a country with an ancient history, possessing fertile soil and a warm climate, finds itself on the verge of extinction? How is it that the people of that nation find themselves without food, without homes, and without the basic necessities of life? Did Vietnam use its air power to demolish Kampuchean towns and villages, to spray poisonous chemicals on Kampuchean crops and rivers? Was it the Vietnamese who shot or simply butchered and clubbed to death 3 million people in Kampuchea? If listeners would carefully weigh the facts things would slip into focus and pictures of the First Lady holding a starving Kampuchean child will be robbed of much of its drama.

Most of you will have no trouble, I think, in finding the October 8th issue of the TIME magazine. It was the issue containing extracts from Henry Kissinger's new book describing his years at the White House. These reminiscences of the former secretary of state give an account of a meeting called by President Nixon at the White House on 16th March 1969.

It was decided at that meeting that it was time for U.S. B-52 bombers to launch massive strikes on Kampuchea. Henry Kissinger gives a reliable eyewitness account of that meeting. He also mentions the fact that 2 months later the president gave a second order to step up bombing raids on Kampuchea. That order was carried out. Henry Kissinger explains that bombing raids on Kampuchea were kept secret because any public announcement would have invited retaliation from North Vietnam.

There are several things to be said about this admission. To begin with it makes it quite clear that Vietnam, like Kampuchea, was the target of massive U.S. air strikes. Secondly, for its own reasons, the administration deliberately misinformed the American public as to its intentions. One can gauge the extent of this misinformation, this cheating of the public, by comparing this admission by Henry Kissinger with what the U.S. papers and magazines were saying all through 1969. On that occasion, too, the Washington leaders thought it right to cheat the American public; and if they did so on different occasions in the past who can guarantee that they won't do it again and again in the future?

Henry Kissinger gives a very matter of fact description of the decision passed in the Oval Room at the White House on 12th March 1969. A statesman of his kind tends to regard nations as mere pawns in a game. Their fate doesn't arouse any compassion. So let's try and visualize that fateful White House decision in practice. Let's try and imagine squadrons of U.S. bombers pouring death and destruction onto Kampuchea. The raids took a heavy toll of civilian life and smashed the country's infrastructure, including homes, roads, bridges and electric power stations. The Kampuchean economy was in shambles. This has to be remembered today when watching publicity shows dramatizing the plight of the poor people of Kampuchea.

It's no exaggeration to say that the tragedy of the Kampuchean people began with those savage U.S. air raids. Those raids were ordered not from Vietnam but from the Oval Room at the White House on 12th March 1969. As for Vietnam, it was the target of aggression, not an aggressor. Those in the United States who try to rewrite history would do well to remember these facts instead of trying to put the blame on a country which did not commit a single crime against the people of Kampuchea and which found itself in much the same position.

The Chinese began where the Americans had left off. Beijing inscribed the last gory page in the Kampuchean tragedy. While pouring slander on Vietnam, the U.S. media is silent about the fact that the gory regime of Pol Pot and Ieng Sary was but a mere puppet of Beijing. That handful of hated maniacs, incidentally, still enjoys the diplomatic recognition of the United States. These maniacs and Beijing, which gave them political and economic support and practical guidance, must share responsibility for the war of genocide declared by Pol Pot on his own people. This is a historical fact, one that cannot be changed by any amount of propaganda and what we see now is Washington and Beijing, in league with each other, trying to put the blame for the tragedy of Kampuchea on Vietnam. If that isn't cynicism I don't know what is.

The Vietnamese destroyed no towns or villages in Kampuchea, nor did they annihilate millions of people there. When the Kampucheans finally rose in a desperate fight against the Pol Pot regime it was Vietnam who supported them. The two nations who were comrades in arms at the time of the American aggression in Indochina are working together now as brothers. The Vietnamese are helping the people of Kampuchea to cope with the aftermath of the U.S. aggression and the gory rule of the former pro-Beijing regime. Instead of trying, as it should, to make up even in some measure for what it did to the peoples of Indochina in the past the United States slips back into political thinking of the late 60's. Massive publicity campaigns may help to hide this from the American public for a time but not for all the time. Eventually the public will learn the truth.

PELSHE LEADS CPSU DELEGATION TO 12th RCP CONGRESS

LD161916 Moscow TASS in English 1900 GMT 16 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, November 16, TASS--A CPSU delegation today left Moscow for Bucharest to take part in the work of the 12th Congress of the Romanian Communist Party at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party. The delegation is led by Arvid Pelshe, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Party Control Committee at the CPSU Central Committee.

Arrival in Bucharest

LD181107 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 18 Nov 79 LD

[Text] A CPSU delegation headed by Comrade Pelshe arrived in Bucharest today. At the invitation of the Romanian Communist Party [RCP] Central Committee it will take part in the work of the 12th RCP Congress. In articles carried by the Romanian press it is stressed that the development of friendly relations and cooperation between Socialist Romania and other countries of the socialist community is determined by the common character of ideology and the social and political system. All socialist countries have as a common aim the building of communism; this is clearly stated in the RCP program and other party documents.

Activities in Bucharest

LD190024 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 18 Nov 79 LD

[Text] A CPSU delegation headed by Comrade Pelshe is in Bucharest. The delegation has arrived to take part in the work of the 12th Congress of the Romanian Communist Party which opens tomorrow. Today, the CPSU delegation laid flowers at the monument to Vladimir Ilich Lenin on Scienteia Square. Wreaths were laid at the monument to the heroes of the struggle for the freedom of the people and the homeland and for socialism, and at the monument to the Romanian heroes who gave up their lives for the happy future of the people. A wreath was also laid at the monument to the heroes of the Soviet Army who fell in the struggle for the liberation of Romania from fascism.

Opening of Congress

LD190812 Moscow TASS in English 0741 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Bucharest, November 19, TASS--The 12th Congress of the Romanian Communist Party opened here today. It is being held in the Grand Hall of the Republic Palace in the presence of envoys from an army of almost three million Romanian communists--the leading force of the people and organizer of socialist construction, veterans of the Romanian working class movement, representatives of mass and public organizations as well as foreign guests.

The congress was opened by General Secretary of the party Nicolae Ceausescu. He congratulated the delegates and guests on an important event in the life of the Romanian Communist Party and the whole of the country. After the election of the congress' working organs and approval of congress agenda N. Ceausescu is to deliver the report of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party on its activities in the interim between the eleventh and twelfth congresses and the further tasks of the party.

MOSCOW REPORTS GROMYKO RECEPTION OF SFRY AMBASSADOR

LD160048 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 2030 GMT 15 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and minister of foreign affairs of the Soviet Union, received Marko Orlandic, Yugoslav ambassador to the Soviet Union, on 15 November at the latter's request. In the course of the talks, which took place in a friendly atmosphere, questions of the further development of bilateral relations between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia were touched on, as well as some international problems of interest to both sides.

SHIP DELIVERS EARTHQUAKE RELIEF SUPPLIES TO YUGOSLAVIA

LD131126 Moscow TASS in English 1910 GMT 12 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Belgrade, November 12, TASS--The Soviet freight ship Artist Serov in the Yugoslav Adriatic port of Bar today with a cargo of 48 KamAZ and KrAZ lorries, 19 ambulances and 20 bulldozers as part of relief supplies for the population of Montenegro who were hit by by an earthquake in April this year.

The population of Montenegro has also received lately over a hundred wooden houses, 26,000 tons of cement, five thousand cubic metres of sawn timber, glass and other building materials as a gift from the Soviet Union.

NOVIKOV, CSSR'S SIMON HOLD NUCLEAR ENERGY COOPERATION TALKS

LD131418 Moscow World Service in English 1000 GMT 13 Nov 79 LD

[Text] The Soviet and Czechoslovak deputy prime ministers, Vladimir Novikov and Josef Simon, are discussing in Moscow the outlook for bilateral cooperation in nuclear energy. Czechoslovakia is completing with Soviet assistance the construction of a large nuclear powerplant. It is also to build two more such projects. The Soviet Union has likewise helped it to start production of equipment for nuclear power stations. Other socialist countries, Finland and Libya are also building nuclear powerplants with Soviet assistance.

GRISHIN LEADS DELEGATION TO PRAGUE FOR MOSCOW DAYS

LD190818 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[Text] A delegation from the Soviet capital led by Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom, left Moscow today for the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic to take part in Moscow days in Prague. Among those seeing them off at the airport was Lovetinskiy, the CSSR ambassador in the USSR.

PONOMAREV MEETS ANDREOTTI; PARLIAMENTARY TALKS OPEN

LD161833 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 16 Nov 79 LD

[Text] The delegation of the Foreign Affairs Commissions of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet headed by Comrade Ponomarev, which has arrived in Rome on an official visit, has opened talks with Italian parliamentarians. Yesterday a meeting took place between Ponomarev and Andreotti, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Chamber of Deputies. An discussion ensued on a number of questions pertaining to Soviet-Italian relations and topical international problems.

Today in the building of the Chamber of Deputies the first meeting opened between the delegation of the Foreign Affairs Commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet chambers and the delegation of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Chamber of Deputies of the Italian Parliament.

GROMYKO DEPARTS FOR OFFICIAL VISIT TO SPAIN

LD190810 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0800 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, 19 November, (TASS)--Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR minister of foreign affairs, today left Moscow on an official visit to Madrid at the invitation of the Spanish Government.

GREECE RESISTS U.S. PRESSURE TO REJOIN NATO MILITARY BLOC

LD190913 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Nov 79 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Exerting Pressure"]

[Text] Brussels, 9 November--I. Davos, commander in chief of the Greek Armed Forces, met with Gen B. Rogers, supreme commander of NATO Allied Armed Forces in Europe, at NATO headquarters in Casteau. As LES NOUVELLES ATLANTIQUES bulletin reports, the question of "Greece's special status" in the NATO military organization was discussed at the meeting.

As is known, Greece withdrew from the organization, but maintains military ties with the alliance partners. In these conditions the Pentagon and NATO are making great efforts, resorting to constant pressure, in order to bring Athens back into the bloc's military system.

Gen I. Davos, according to LES NOUVELLES ATLANTIQUES, told Rogers that the Greek Government "is in no hurry" to return and will not take steps contrary to its country's national interests.

BREZHNEV CABLES CONGRATULATIONS TO TURKISH PRESIDENT

LD112015 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 11 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has sent a telegram to Fahri Koruturk, president of the Republic of Turkey, in which, on behalf of the Soviet people and himself personally, he conveyed to the president and the friendly Turkish people congratulations and good wishes for prosperity and success on the occasion of the country's national holiday, the 56th anniversary of the republic.

In his telegram of reply the Turkish president expressed on behalf of the Turkish people and himself personally sincere thanks for the congratulations.

The telegrams express confidence that the relations of goodneighborliness and friendly cooperation between the Soviet Union and Turkey will be further developed in the interests of both countries and the consolidation of peace.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON SITUATION IN TEHRAN

Soviet Denial on UN Convocation

LD162216 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1352 GMT 16 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, 16 November, TASS--The local radio today transmitted a denial, circulated by the Soviet Embassy in Tehran, of allegations that the Soviet Union actively opposed the convening of the UN Security Council on the Iranian-American conflict.

Accusation of U.S. 'Disinformation'

LD191220 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Iranian radio and television have made public a statement alleging that the Soviet representative at the United Nations had come out against Iran's request to convene the Security Council.

Later, Iranian radio broadcast a denial which noted that, in fact, the USSR's representative at the Security Council had, from the very beginning, supported Iran's motion.

Perhaps the most interesting thing is the fact that, as is known, the first report was received by Iranian radio with the dateline UPI from New York, whereas the Iranian version cited AFP.

It is in this way that fake reports [falshivka] are fabricated. Moreover, they are fabricated in a certain subdivision [podrazdeleniye] of the U.S. administration, a kind of American disinformation department.

[Moscow TASS in English at 1214 GMT on 19 November carries the above report under the headline "Caught Red-handed."]

Khomeyni Criticism of U.S.

LD162340 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 16 Nov 79 LD

[Excerpts] There have been more anti-American demonstrations outside the United States Embassy in Tehran. The students holding embassy staff hostages issued a communique saying that they obey only Ayatollah Khomeyni and that no compromise decision could be reached unless the ousted shah was extradited to Iran. Speaking in the city of Qom, Ayatollah Khomeyni strongly criticized the United States for sheltering the shah and for the move to freeze Iranian assets in American banks. He underlined that the shah was a criminal.

Decision to Release Hostages

LD171818 Moscow TASS in English 1732 GMT 17 Nov 79 LD

[Excerpts] Washington, November 17, TASS--A U.S. State Department spokesman has confirmed that no physical harm has been done to the persons held at the American Embassy in Tehran. He stressed that there was no change in the U.S. stand as regards the stay of the former Iranian shah in the United States. The spokesman said again that the United States was not preparing any military action against Iran and assured that the military exercises held these days by the U.S. Armed Forces were not related to the Iranian events.

Tehran, November 17, TASS--Iranian students, who are continuing to hold the American Embassy and hostages, stated their consent to release women and blacks. They will be freed as soon as it is established that they were not involved in espionage activities of the American special services.

The Iranian radio reports that this decision was made on instruction of Ayatollah Khomeyni. As regards the other hostages, a student spokesman said they would not be released until the American administration extradited the shah to the Iranian people.

Iran's Acting Foreign Minister Bani-Sadr reported to Ayatollah Khomeyni in Qom on the situation with the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. After the meeting he said in an interview to PARS agency that the United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim can visit Iran if he recognises the justness of the Iranian position in respect of the United States.

Bani-Sadr criticised the United States for the obstacles created by it on the way to convening the United Nations Security Council in connection with the aggravation of Iranian-American relations. He confirmed the resolve of students to hold the hostages till the satisfaction by the United States of the demand to extradite the shah of Iran.

The trade union of Iranian pharmaceutists has decided to boycott all medicines of American make, PARS agency reports.

[Moscow TASS in English at 0838 GMT on 19 November adds that: "Iranian students, who are still occupying the American Embassy, have announced the release of 13 hostages, among them--5 women and 8 black Americans. In a statement which has been published here it is said that the released hostages will be immediately sent out of Iran."]

Departure of Three Hostages

LD190858 Moscow TASS in English 0840 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, November 19, TASS--Three hostages, released from the American Embassy, have been sent out of Iran. Another ten hostages are expected to be released in the near future, Radio Tehran has reported.

Possibility of Diplomatic Break

LD182142 Moscow TASS in English 2010 GMT 18 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, November 18, TASS--Iranian Government will be steadily pressing for complete economic and political independence of the country, Secretary of the Islamic Revolutionary Council Ayatollah Beheshti said at a press conference today. He stressed that the problem of relations between Iran and the USA does not boil down to the question of the shah's extradition. If the United States does not change its policy of imposing its domination on Iran, diplomatic relations between the two countries might possibly be broken. This possibility is being discussed by the Islamic Revolutionary Council.

Iranian students that are holding for the 14th day the U.S. Embassy with hostages inside started a thorough examination of the files on those persons who, under Ayatollah Khomeyni's directive, are to be released provided they were not connected with the U.S. special services. Students' representative said that those hostages whose espionage activity is proved are to be put on trial.

Washington, November 18, TASS--The White House issued an official statement concerning the decision of the Iranian students holding the U.S. Embassy in Tehran to release women and black Americans from among the hostages.

Welcoming this decision, the White House at the same time insists that all hostages should be released. The statement does not contain an answer to Iran's main demand, that of the extradition of the former shah. A representative of the Department of State limited himself to a vague phrase that, in Washington's opinion, it is up to the shah and his doctors to decide on the shah's departure from the USA.

The United States continues the campaign of pressure on Iran. Official financial bodies started implementing the measures announced by President Carter on blocking all Iranian state assets in U.S. banks and their branches abroad. Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee Russell Long urged the White House to stop deliveries of food to Iran and break off trade with Iran altogether.

At the same time, a number of American politicians and some press organs make warnings against the dangerous consequences of the anti-Iranian campaign. Senator William Proxmire said at a press conference in Chicago that imposing the embargo on food deliveries to Iran and, even more so, a military intervention in Iran would be a big mistake and would have disastrous consequences. The New York TIMES expresses the opinion that the stoppage of the import of Iranian oil would not have any special effect on Iran and will cause damage above all to the United States itself.

Kuwait, November 18, TASS--Kuwait resolutely condemns the decision of the U.S. administration to freeze Iranian assets in banks of the USA and their branches abroad, said Kuwait's Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Husayn. This decision, he said, will, undoubtedly, affect the future of our commercial relations. It shook our confidence in the durability of the present international monetary system. We shall have to look for the way out of the situation that has formed.

Lifting of Journalists Restrictions

LD181546 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0330 GMT 18 Nov 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Vsevolod Shishkovskiy]

[Excerpt] The Acting Foreign Minister Bani Sadr, referring to Washington's economic blockade of Iran, has said that the Americans will suffer more from this blockade than the Iranians. He announced the intention of the Iranian leadership to lift certain limitations imposed earlier on the activities of foreign journalists in Iran, and allow them to come to the country in order to observe events at a closer distance.

IZVESTIYA ON DEVELOPMENTS IN TEHRAN EMBASSY SEIZURE, KORDESTAN

LD161609 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Nov 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[TASS reports under the general headline: "Events in Iran"]

[Text] Washington, 12 November--The White House press secretary has announced that yesterday U.S. President J. Carter continued consultations with his closest adviser on the question of U.S.-Iranian relations in connection with the Iranian students' seizure of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. A White House spokesman stated that Carter "still rules out the use of miliatry force in this incident."

A U.S. State Department spokesman urged U.S. politicians and former statesmen "not to pour oil on the flames" of the dangerous situation which has taken shape in connection with events in Tehran and not to make proposals or threats of any sort against Iran.

A Pentagon spokesman has announced that subunits of the 82d and 101st airborne divisions, the 5th Special Forces Group and the 4th Mechanized Infantry Divison began to arrive today at Fort Hood, Texas. These troops which, according to UPI, will eventually join the so-called "quick-reaction corps," have been put in a state of enhanced combat alert. The Pentagon spokesman stated here that "the maneuvers at Fort Hood have nothing to do with Iran." UPI points out that the top army authorities have also instructed the base's command to deny totally that the arrival of the special "quick-reaction troops" is linked with the events in Iran.

Anti-Iranian demonstrations are continuing in various U.S. cities. In Los Angeles, Boston and a number of other cities, anti-Iranian demonstrations have ended with beatings of Iranians, including Iranian students studying in the United States.

At his press conference yesterday the White House press secretary recalled that President J. Carter and the families of the hostages had asked all Americans to avoid actions which might harm and jeopardize the lives of U.S. diplomats in Tehran.

Senator G. McGovern, an eminent figure in the Democratic Party, speaking on television yesterday, advised people in the United States who are overcome by anger to look more closely at the history of U.S.-Iranian relations and to understand that the United States has not always taken into account the Iranian people's aspirations. In particular this applies to the period when the United States helped the shah seize power in the country, the senator said.

Tehran, 12 November--The students' occupation of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran was discussed yesterday at a session of the Islamic Revolutionary Council in Qom. The Tehran TIMES reports that Mohammad Bahonar, a representative of the council, has stated that henceforth Iran's policy with regard to the United States will not be of a "defensive" nature. The United States, he said, must stop interfering in the affairs of other countries, including Iran.

In an appeal to the U.S. people Iranian Acting Foreign Minister Abolhasan Bani Sadr stressed that the activity of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran had nothing in common with ordinary diplomatic practice: The U.S. Embassy had been turned into an important espionage center in Iran and our entire region. The hand of the United States--which, relying on a handful of national criminals, brought Iran's economy to the verge of catastrophe and is now threatening us with economic blockade--can be clearly seen in the bloody events in Iran, Bani Sadr noted.

In another statement Bani Sadr condemned the measures taken by the U.S. authorities in recent days--the expulsion of Iranian students from the United States, the ban of Iranian airline aircraft landing at U.S. airfields, the refusal to service Iranian ships at U.S. ports and the threat of an economic blockade.

At a meeting with Iranian Foreign Ministry employees Bani Sadr announced that in the next few days he would invite foreign ambassadors accredited to Iran to ask them to support Iran's demand for the extradition of the former shah. "We are prepared to arrange an international court in Tehran," he said. "If the shah is found guilty, he will be sentenced. If not, we will give him back."

Bani Sadr stressed that Iran respects the principle of the inviolability of diplomatic missions. However, he said, "we cannot allow an embassy to become a center for which to control a country, and that is precisely what the U.S. embassy was doing."

Anti-U.S. meetings and demonstrations are continuing in the region of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. The demonstrators are demanding that the United States extradite the deposed shah to Iran.

Tehran, 12 November--A delegation from the central government has returned here from Iranian Kordestan on completing the first round of talks with Kurdish religious and political figures.

The Tehran TIMES reports that during the first stage of the talks between the delegation and the Iranian Kordestan Democratic Party agreement in principle was reached on a settlement of the Kurdish crisis. It is noted that the Kurds' religious-political leader, Shaykh Hoseyni, has approved this agreement except for two points. The content of the document will be published after the agreement has been approved by the Islamic Revolutionary Council. It is expected that the delegation members will report the results of their trip to Kordestan to the Ayatollah Khomeyni today.

In an interview with the newspaper BAMDAD the members of the delegation expressed overall satisfaction with the results of the talks in Kordestan and voiced the hope that peace and quiet would be restored in this region in the very near future. In their opinion, the dialog with the Kurds will be continued.

Ayatollah Khomeyni's representative Hoseyn Kermani, who took part in the talks, stated that during the talks attention was focused mainly on reaching agreement on halting combat operations by all sides. Such an agreement has now been reached with the Iranian Kordestan Democratic Party, he said, but there are other forces which are trying to wreck the peace talks and are not embarking on a cease-fire. To this day shooting is continuing--in Oshnuye, for instance. These forces are provoking clashes between the supporters of the Iranian Kordestan Democratic Party on the one hand and government troops, the gendarmeries and the "Guards of the Islamic Revolution" on the other. Only after the establishment of a complete cease-fire in Kordestan, Khomeyni's representative said, will negotiations on their demands be held with the Kurds.

The newspaper JOMHURIYE ESLAMI reports that about 100 Kurds from the city of Marivan have organized a sit-in in the building where the work of the Council of Experts on the final examination of the draft new constitution is underway. They are demanding the revision of the draft's article on religious minorities.

REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL ANNOUNCES FORMATION OF NEW GOVERNMENT

LD191402 Moscow TASS in English 1259 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, November 19, TASS--Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Council has officially announced the composition of a new government which will function under its direct leadership without prime minister. Abolhasan Bani-Sadr was appointed minister for the economy and finance and curator of the Foreign Ministry, Hojjat Ol-Eslam Rafsanjani--curator of the Ministry for the Interior.

The new government does not include the former Premier Bazargan, Foreign Minister Ebrahim Yazdi, Minister for the Interior Hashem Sabbaghian, Justice Minister Javadi and some other members of the former cabinet. Several ministerial posts remain vacant.

The new government has not as yet made any program statement.

SAVCHENKO COMMENTS ON BREZHNEV CABLE TO KHOMEYNI ON EARTHQUAKE

NC182012 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 16 Nov 79 NC

[Igor Savchenko commentary]

[Excerpts] The emotions that were raised in the Soviet people after hearing of the earthquake in Iran were (?expressed) in Leonid Brezhnev's words. The Soviet people have never been careless toward the grief, sorrow, affliction and joy of the southern neighbor--the (?brave) and [word indistinct] people of Iran. The feelings of friendship and good intentions that the people of both countries hold for each other have centuries-old roots.

The neighboring states not only have long-standing economic and cultural relations, but are totally aware of instances when both states' representatives took joint action against the oppressors: the tsarist regime in Russia and the monarchical regime in Iran.

For a long time, the proimperialist monarchical regime in Iran impeded the extensive development of bilateral, friendly relations. After the victory of the freedom-giving national revolution in Iran, this impediment was removed, and there was the real possibility for an increased development of reciprocal friendly feelings and mutual good opinion of the people of both countries.

The numerous letters from Iranians reaching Radio Moscow speak of their attachment to and their good opinion of our nation.

Iranian Ambassador to the Soviet Union Mohammad Mokri said a few days ago that friendly relations exist between Iran and the USSR. Soviet papers express interest and good intentions toward Iran and the revolution in our country. The Iranian ambassador pointed out that Ayatollah Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution, is respected in the Soviet Union.

ISLAMIC COUNCIL BANS STRIKES, DEMONSTRATIONS IN IRAN

LD181035 Moscow TASS in English 1029 GMT 18 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, November 18, TASS--The Islamic Revolutionary Council of Iran banned strikes and demonstrations at the country's industrial enterprises. This was reported by Iranian television.

IRAN-LIBYA TIES SET, MUSA AS-SADR DISAPPEARANCE TO BE INVESTIGATED

LD161453 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Nov 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Untitled REUTERS report from M. Rostarchuk roundup "The Day Worldwide"]

[Text] Iran has decided to establish diplomatic relations with Libya and to set up a commission to examine the circumstances of the disappearance of Imam Musa as-Sadr, leader of the Libyan [as published] Shi'ite Muslim community.

UK SEEKS TO WEAKEN PATRIOTIC FRONT ROLE IN RHODESIA

LD171150 Moscow TASS in English 1139 GMT 17 Nov 79 LD

[Text] London, November 17, TASS--TASS correspondent Dmitriy Golubev writes:

Britain's Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington submitted proposals to the participants of the Rhodesia conference here concerning the conditions of ceasefire and creation in the country of a favourable situation to prepare elections. The British proposals envisage measures on disengagement of troops of the present Rhodesian regime and the forces of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front and ceasefire during 7-10 days after achieving an agreement. A special international group of observers will operate in the disengagement zone. Commanders of the armed forces and the observers will be directly subordinated to the British governor who will administer the country during a transitional period in line with the earlier agreements.

The Zimbabwe Patriotic Front agreed to this variant of settlement after introducing substantial amendments to the original British plan. On these amendment concern the the status of the front's armed forces which should be on an equal footing with the army of the present regime in ensuring preparation for the elections in the country [sentence as received].

However, the delegation of the Rhodesian puppet administration is trying to poison the atmosphere of the talks. General Walls, Rhodesia's commander of the armed forces, tried to distort the essence of the earlier agreements at a press conference. He resorted to threats which made it clear that the present regime and its military machine do not guarantee observance of a ceasefire. A representative of the British delegation supported, in fact, Walls' reactionary position. It is becoming obvious that Britain and its stooges are seeking to minimize the role of the Patriotic Front in the process of settlement in Rhodesia, just as during the previous rounds of the talks.

The front's representative Zwobgo resolutely condemned the attempts to distort the agreements reached. He said that the Patriotic Front will not give up its just demands.

Intimidation of Rhodesian Population

LD162222 Moscow TASS in English 2045 GMT 16 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Nairobi, November 16, TASS--The London conference on Rhodesia is not yet over, but the illegal authorities of that country are making feverish efforts to ensure for themselves favourable conditions at the general election that might take place.

According to reports from Salisbury, the Rhodesian racist regime launched a broad campaign for conditioning the population before the election and is combining this campaign with large-scale intimidation and terror. There are reports about urgent measures taken by the racists and their supporters to alert their repressive apparatus, as well as the so-called "private armies" of traitors Muzorewa and Sithole. Thus, Muzorewa decided to bring to 20 thousand the numerical strength of his "private forces" formed of tribalist elements and criminal scum. The REUTER writes that these forces are assigned the task of opposing the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front. Some ringleaders of the dictatorial regime openly threaten freedom fighters with a bloodbath.

Commenting on the conference in London, acting "Premier" of Salisbury Mazaiwana said today that the "role of the Patriotic Front in the period of transition and during the elections should not be compared to the role of Zimbabwe-Rhodesian security forces", that is, the Smith-Muzorewa punitives. Another puppet leader Chikerema was even more outspoken. He asserted that active participation of guerrillas in the observance of the elections "is unacceptable". The attempts to prevent the patriots from taking an active part in the elections are being actually encouraged by the Western patrons of the racists and their puppets.

Commentators note that Britain and other Western powers in reality use the London conference not in order to achieve a just solution of the Rhodesian question but for stage-by-stage lifting of international sanctions [words indistinct] supporting the sham "government". According to the REUTER, Britain today partially lifted the sanctions that were introduced against Rhodesia after the unilateral declaration of Rhodesia's "independence" in 1965. Trade with Rhodesia via mediators has now been allowed. The Johannesburg STAR writes that British banks and firms are prepared to provide credits of many millions to the Rhodesian "allies". Some Western countries already have trading missions in Salisbury.

NJOMA SCORES S. AFRICAN, WESTERN STANCE ON NAMIBIA

LD171526 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2110 GMT 16 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Geneva, 16 November TASS--The international conference on Namibia which has taken place here has not justified the hopes placed in it. The delegation of the Republic of South Africa racist regime which has taken part in the conference has refused to support the plan for solving the Namibian problem presented by the United Nations. Thus Pretoria has demonstrated its unwillingness to search for ways of arriving at a peaceful settlement in Namibia. This was stated in a talk with a TASS correspondent by South-West Africa People's Organization [SWAPO] President Sam Njoma. Our purpose, he noted, is struggle for the full and speediest possible liberation of our people suffering under the yoke of South African neocolonisers and repressive South African laws drafted in such a way as to humiliate our people, suppress them and deprive them of the legitimate right to self-determination and independence.

The South African racist regime, added S. Njoma has resorted to various tricks to delay the start of the Geneva conference.

The present results of the conference which, in fact, has yielded nothing, have shown Pretoria's true position on this issue.

Representatives of five Western powers have also taken part in the talks, said the SWAPO president. They were the representatives of states which support the Republic of South Africa in its diplomatic game. In particular, they agreed with Pretoria's statements that the conference's aim allegedly was to "study" the existing problems and not to adopt concrete decisions affecting them. Thus they postpone the implementation of resolution No. 435 adopted by the Security Council in 1978. In any way it can the West is trying to prevent economic sanctions against the South African racists. This is not surprising, for after all the United States, Britain, the FRG, France and Canada, whose representatives took part in the talks, have large capital investments in the Republic of South Africa and maintain trade and economic ties with it. In other words the participation of the representatives of these five countries in the consultations in Geneva did not benefit the Namibian cause and the role of these states here was negative, noted S. Njoma. We are leaving here to step up even more the struggle for Namibia's national liberation, emphasised SWAPO's president in conclusion.

BREZHNEV CONGRATULATES ANGOLAN PRESIDENT ON ANNIVERSARY

LD190933 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Nov 79 p 1 LD

[Text of telegram from L.I. Brezhnev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, to Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA]-Labor Party and president of Angola, on the fourth anniversary of Angolan independence]

[Text] To Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola.

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the whole Soviet people, and myself personally, I heartily congratulate you, the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party, and the Angolan people on the fourth anniversary of the proclamation of the country's independence.

True to the principles of internationalism and solidarity with peoples struggling for their national rights, the Soviet Union has invariably been on the side of the Angolan patriots and their combat vanguard, the MPLA-Labor Party. Soviet people value highly the resolve of the Angolan people to tread the path of national and social progress and the construction of the bases for a socialist society. We are sincerely gladdened that the bonds of friendship and beneficial cooperation between the USSR and the People's Republic of Angola, between the CPSU and the MPLA-Labor Party--whose development was always favored by the outstanding political figure of the revolutionary movement in Africa and great friend of the Soviet Union, Antonio Agostinho Neto--are continuing to deepen and expand on the principles of equality, mutual respect and trust.

The basis for these friendly relations and the guarantee for their further development was and is the adherence of our parties and states to the ideals of peace, freedom, national solidarity and socialism.

The consolidation of popular power in Angola is an important factor for the peace and stability of Africa and a powerful support for the liberation struggle in Namibia, Zimbabwe and the Republic of South Africa for a final deliverance of the continent from the remnants of colonialism and racism.

The principled anti-imperialist course of the People's Republic of Angola in the world arena is receiving today ever wider international recognition. I wish you and through you the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party and the whole Angolan people further successes in the cause of the revolutionary transformations and the strengthening of the political and economic independence of the country in the interests of peace and progress.

[Signed] L. Brezhnev

ANGOLA, USSR SIGN PROTOCOL FOR JOINT FISHING EXPEDITION

LD091259 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Nov 79 p 5 LD

[Report from correspondent V. Volkov and TASS reports under the general headine "From the Teletype"]

[Text] A protocol has been signed in Luanda on the organization of a joint Soviet-Angolan fishing expedition. Its main purpose is to help in creating Angola's national fishing fleet and to assist in training national cadres and in supplying Angola's domestic market with fish products.

FIDEL CASTRO RECEIVES YEPISHEV IN HAVANA

LD161050 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0752 GMT 16 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Havana--Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, chairman of the State Council and Council of Ministers of the republic, has received Army Gen A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, who is heading a USSR military delegation. In the course of the conversation, which took place in a friendly atmosphere, various international problems were discussed. A.A. Yepishev imparted greetings to Fidel Castro from the leaders of the CPSU, the Government and the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union.

The same day the head of the Soviet military delegation attended a festive soiree of friendship between the fraternal armies of the Soviet Union and Cuba. Addressing those present, he condemned the aggressive plans of imperialism and reaction aimed at foiling the policy of detente. The situation in the world, the speaker stressed, is becoming complicated in connection with the fact that in their actions the most aggressive imperialist circles are closing ranks more and more tightly with the Beijing leaders. On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, USSR defense minister, and all servicemen of the Soviet Army and Navy, the head of the Soviet military delegation greeted the valiant Cuban Armed Forces. He noted the close links of friendship linking the peoples of the Soviet Union and Cuba and the servicemen of both socialist states.

CPSU DELEGATION TO PERUVIAN CP CONGRESS DEPARTS FOR HOME

LD190925 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Nov 79 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Departure of Delegation"]

[Text] Lima, 9 November--A CPSU delegation headed by M.N. Vsevolozhskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of Zaporozhskiy Ukrainian CP Obkom, which took part in the Communist Party of Peru [PCP] Seventh National Congress on the invitation of the PCP leadership, has left the Peruvian capital for home. The delegation was seen off at the airport by Jorge del Prado, secretary general of the PCP Central Committee, and other PCP leaders.

VENEZUELA WILL NOT INCREASE OIL SALES TO U.S.

LD141522 Moscow TASS in English 1447 GMT 14 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Caracas, November 14, TASS--Venezuela shall not increase oil deliveries to the United States, said the Ministry of Energy and Mines of that country. A statement to this effect was made in connection with local press reports saying that Washington is exerting pressure upon the Venezuelan Government to compel it to make up for the losses in liquid fuel because of terminated U.S. purchases of Iranian oil.

Mexican Refusal

LD161640 Moscow TASS in English 1545 GMT 16 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Caracas, November 15 [Date as received] TASS--Mexico will not increase oil supplies to the United States to make up for the latter's losses caused by its refusal to import Iranian oil, said Mexico's Foreign Minister Jorge Castaneda during his visit here. The minister said that Mexico is adhering to its own policy in oil production and export, and is not going to alter it.

ALEKSANDROV ON ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY, SAFETY OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

LD191001 Madrid YA in Spanish 28 Oct 79 pp 30-31 LD

[Part II of Jose V. Colchero undated interview in Moscow with USSR Academy of Sciences President Anatoliy Aleksandrov: "Nuclear Energy Essential to Spain"]

[Text] Do you believe that we Spaniards, who lack any chance of exerting the pressure on the Middle East to which you refer with regard to the United States [allusion not previously mentioned in interview], have no alternative than to use nuclear energy, despite the risks it could entail?

[Answer] I believe that for Spain there is no alternative to using nuclear energy. Can you think of any?

[Question] What would be the price to a modern society of abandoning nuclear energy?

[Answer] If Spain did so it would cease to exist as an industrial country. It would be without energy, and without energy it is impossible to produce any machinery; but neither can the chemical industry exist to provide the necessary supplies to agriculture. At the present time énergy is the basis of our entire life.

Risks

[Question] So is there no alternative to running the risk of accidents?

[Answer] Power stations must be constructed with absolute safety. Nevertheless, accidents can sometimes happen. The latest one occurred in the United States. It was due to two causes, the main one being the low standard of training of the power station's staff. A scientist cannot imagine how it is possible for a power station to start working without the staff first being adequately trained and without all the system's technical elements first being most scrupulously tested. There are also risks involved in installing the automatic monitoring and safety systems capable of preventing accidents. Unless staff and technology are maintained at an adequate standard it is inadmissible for a power station to begin operations....

[Question] So at Harrisburg--because I assume you are referring to Harrisburg--there was a two-fold failure, human and technical?

[Answer] Yes, staff's technical training was very inadequate and furthermore the power station lacked special automatic systems guaranteeing functioning in the event of an anomaly emerging. The technical shortcoming could have been avoided if the staff had been properly trained. Probably what happened was due to the fact that in the United States an inadequately trained person--that is, a technician lacking any further education--can nevertheless work in running a power station. In the Soviet Union these posts can only be occupied by senior engineers who must, moreover, undergo speial tests. Periodically, every year, short technical refresher courses are held. I wish to stress that despite the failure there were no casualties. The hullabaloo raised in connection with this incident was exaggerated. All that panic was unfounded.

[Question] Do you believe that we non-experts are excessively afraid of radiation?

[Answer] One can be afraid of anything, depending to a large extent on how the danger is portrayed by the media, which often try to scare people. But if we compare other spheres of activity (the chemical or construction industries, for instance) to the nuclear industry, the percentage of casualities is about 50-100 times less in the latter.

[Question] What risks are involved in the genetic effects of radiation?

[Answer] There are many radioactive elements on the earth and they are distributed on land and in the sea water. There is also cosmic radiation. When a human being undergoes an x-ray examination he receives a dose of radiation. The permissible dose of radiation must not be greater than that received by someone being x-rayed by his doctor. Specialists in nuclear medicine carry our periodical check-ups on staff working at power stations and the neighboring population.

[Question] Do you have any grandchildren?

[Answer] Of course, and even a great grandchild....

I Live Nearby

[Question] And would you be afraid if one of your grandchildren or your great grandchild attended a kindergarten close to a nuclear power station?

[Answer] I myself live very near the Nuclear Energy Institute and this institute has five reactors. Several of my children and grandchildren also live in that area and we all feel very safe.... You understand that I am acquainted with the possible risks of those reactors and if there were any real threat to my grandchildren I would not have allowed them to come and live near me, or I would have made them move elsewhere.

[Question] Are there any differences between safety systems employed in reactors in the Western countries and those used in the Soviet Union?

[Answer] In general the safety and protection systems have much in common. Here we have very rigorous state control to verify and test the observance of regulations. In the Western states this supervision is entrusted more to private companies. This is where the difference lies. But in many Western countries there is also rigorous state control, though the degree of rigidity is very elastic. Nevertheless, I wish to make it clear that the safety measures adopted in all countries to prevent nuclear risks are generally much greater than in other branches of industry. There is no reason to believe that only radiation accidents can cause genetic consequences. A large number of the substances produced by the chemical industry also have these damaging effects which moreover, are much more difficult to detect than radiation.

[Question] So are the controls safer when nuclear power stations belong to the state than when they are the property of private enterprises...?

[Answer] That is very difficult to say, but I am convince that when a fault emerges in a part of the system the state can intervene directly to remedy it [sentence as published].

[Question] It is said that the Soviet Union is very advanced in fusion reactors. When will they start to supply electricity?

[Answer] We are presently at the experimental stage, but we trust that it will not be long before we achieve progress in this new nuclear technology. I do indeed believe that we are in the vanguard of fusion research, though this technology will not have any significant practical application until the beginning of the next century. At present in fusion energy [as published] the output of nuclear reactors constitutes 5-8 percent of the USSR's total energy. Research into nuclear fusion requires vast financing. This is why it will be a slow process and there is absolutely no question of fusion power stations being economic this century. An industrial model could be built this century, but power stations would not be built to supply energy to the electrical network. I also wish to point out that these fusion power stations would not eliminate the dangers of radiation, but would, on the contrary, increase them. More stringent safety measures would have to be employed in fusion reactors to lessen the risks.

Uranium

[Question] Will not uranium suffer the same fate as oil, whose scarcity is raising its price and increasing the risk of war?

[Answer] Yes, if we use uranium as the only fuel for reactors, this danger will emerge. But reactors can also work on the plutonium cycle and therefore the prospects for fuel supplies are practically unlimited, since the generators themselves produce more plutonium than is originally employed.

[Question] And when will it be technologically possible to use this plutonium recycling process?

[Answer] Right now.

[Question] Since the USSR is so advanced in nuclear technology why does it not export more reactors to capitalist countries?

[Answer] We do export reactors for research to many countries. Furthermore, we have constructed a number of nuclear power stations in Czechoslovakia, Hungary, East Germany, Bulgaria and Finland. They are very satisfied with them. In general, however, we are not interested in the Western market, which does not mean, however, that we will not sell reactors to one or two or three countries, but we do not plan to create large-scale markets. We will concentrate our production capacity on meeting our own requirements, on supplying our own industry.

[Question] Is there any cooperation between Spain and the USSR in the nuclear field?

[Answer] Spain buys enriched uranium from the Soviet Union. We sell enriched uranium to many countries. The United States and ourselves are practically the only suppliers of the world market. Not only do we sell Spain enriched uranium, but we enrich the uranium which Spain sends us for that purpose. Obviously, we charge for enriching it. Whether or not this relationship with Spain is intensified is something that depends on politicians, not technicians.

[Question] Do you believe that politicians or technicians should decide on issues connected with the use of nuclear energy?

[Answer] I believe that scientists are better qualified to do so, but one must bear in mind that specialists are subjected to pressure by political organizations and the oil monopolies. Be that as it may, I am convinced that the crusade against nuclear energy is largely due to the policy of the monopolies.

Discrepancies

[Question] So do you believe that a country should never decide by referendum whether or not to use nuclear energy?

[Answer] It would be possible, though in that case the people would have to be thoroughly and properly informed. The popular consultations in the United States have merely served to aggravate the problem.

[Question] What does the Soviet Union do with nuclear waste: Does it bury it, sink it at sea or does it plan to launch it into space by rocket?

[Answer] Not into space. That would be too dangerous.

[Question] Some scientists have indicated the possibility of launching waste to the sun, where it would be destroyed....

[Answer] If it were possible to guarantee it reaching the sun in the knowledge that it would be destroyed completely, then that solution might be sought, but it would be very dangerous if the rocket strayed from its course and entered an orbit which made it crash to earth. It would not be so terribly expensive to send waste in a rocket to the sun, though it would cost more than burying it on our planet. The greatest disadvantage would be the uncertainty of "aim," inasmuch as it could return to earth.

[Question] Is it less dangerous to keep the waste on the earth?

[Answer] Yes. We can bury it in special mines. Mines without subterranean water must be chosen. There are special conditions in the subsoil which are very safe. Waste must not be stored at sea, however, because the container could corrode and contamination could escape. At first the British disposed of their waste at sea. But now the whole world acknowledges that this is incorrect.

[Question] In several West European countries, including Spain, there is a strong trend of opinion against nuclear power stations. If you have a large-scale nuclear program why does this phenomenon not occur in the Soviet Union as well?

[Answer] This trend in the West is due to the fact that not many people reflect on the possible consequences of mankind of a dangerous energy shortage. An energy shortage implies unemployment, industrial recession, a fall in agricultural harvests, and so forth. It is very difficult to imagine all these calamities and in the Western countries only a small percentage of the public is aware of them, since during political campaigns and referendums these aspects are not discussed. Some countries have considerable quantities of coal. Therefore some people believe that world energy can be structured on the basis of coal, though even coal is distributed very unevenly across the world. The United States, for instance, has enough oil to last 20-30 years and buys half of what is consumes abroad. By adding to this its vast coal reserves it could even have sufficient energy resources to last 200 years. But energy obtained from coal is more expensive than nuclear energy and contaminates the environment more as the coal burns. This contamination is much greater than the radiation emitted by nuclear power stations. Therefore nuclear energy is the best form for the industrial development of mankind.

[Question] Would not coal and gas suffice as energy sources until solar energy becomes economic?

[Answer] No, nor do I believe that solar energy can ever suffice to make nuclear energy redundant. The intensity of the sun is very variable in the various parts of the world, but in the majority of cases it is possible to obtain 1 kilowatt per square meter when the sun is at its zenith. Therefore vast areas would be required for this form of energy.

It is not feasible to exploit solar energy for electricity and I do not expect that solar energy will be any more important in the foreseeable future than hydroelectric energy, that is, that it will satisfy more than 5 percent of the USSR's energy requirements. I have greater faith in other energy sources, which are hardly mentioned in the media, such as hydrothermal energy, that is, subterranean heat [as published], which in some areas of the world can be converted into a very important source of primary energy.

[Question] Why are you so skeptical about solar energy? In Spain it is hoped that it will become a useful alternative...

[Answer] It can be used successfully, for instance, for home central heating and for certain other domestic applications, but not for industrial purposes.

[Question] In your opinion, could there be any other major energy source as an alternative to nuclear energy in a country with Spain's geological and climatic conditions?

[Answer] No: The only other sources that can be used, such as wind and sea energy, are inadequate and supplementary and would leave any country no better than poor in energy....

[Question] Professor, does being in favor of, or opposed to, nuclear energy have anything to do with political ideology?

[Answer] There is no correlation between nuclear energy and politics, though in my opinion a political party can make use of nuclear energy by creating currents of opinion opposed to it and hullabaloos can be created in connection with this issue, as has happened in Sweden.

[Question] Reports or rumors concerning accidents with reactors in the Soviet Union have circulated in the Western world on several occasions. What truth is there in this? Have there been any casualties? Has the USSR also had its Harrisburg?

[Answer] Yes, there have been breakdowns and also casualties. We have also had some problems in nuclear power stations already in operation, but on a very small scale.... Difficulties have arisen in experimental reactors during research. People have been exposed to doses of radiation and there have been six fatalities in various accidents, but only during research stages. There have been no fatal accidents in nuclear power stations already in operation supplying energy to the electricity grid. In the power stations there have only been a few minor leakages, without consequences and without any atmospheric contamination.

Leakages

[Question] These leakages in the USSR do not become known to the public. Is too much importance attached in Western countries to any kind of abnormality in power stations?

[Answer] If anything very serious occurred here, we would, of course, also have a scandal. But in the instances which have occurred, the amount of radiation to which the people affected were exposed was comparable to the amount to which you are exposed when you allow yourself to be x-rayed or even when you sit in front of a television set....

[Question] Professor Aleksandrov, thank you very much for answering my questions. Is there anything else you would like to expand on?

[Answer] Throughout the world people drink mineral water and most of this water is radioactive, but people drink it very willingly probably because they are unaware that it is radioactive. The radiation to which nuclear power station staff are exposed is proportionately tiny compared to that to which they are exposed outside the power stations in their normal life. Each person's body is radioactive and the source of this radiation is calcium 40, which is in fact an isotope of an element we eat every day in tomatoes and other foods. At one time we made wide use of radioactive paints. And we still use them, for instance to paint the faces of certain kinds of clocks. These paints have been a very serious source of radiation. In the clock and watch industry there were cases where workers died without any apparent reason. It took a long time to discover that it was due to radiation. This was 20-30 years ago. They died of cancer. Aviation instruments, on which the figures on the dials are phosphorescent, emitted radiation and during an hour's flying a pilot would be exposed to a dose equivalent to that to which one might be exposed in six months' work in a nuclear power station. The dose of radiation applied to a patient under x-ray examination also exceeds that to which nuclear power station workers are exposed. The population living near nuclear power stations is exposed to a [additional] dose 20 times smaller than that to which a person might be exposed during his normal life and 100 times less than in an x-ray examination. The world press is scaring world public opinion. By that I do not mean to say that we must adopt an irresponsible attitude toward contamination risks. The most serious dangers derive from the process of transforming the fuel and the elimination of radioactive waste. The efforts of all nations must be united to discover the right way to dispose of this waste.

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 16, 17 NOVEMBER

LD170510 [Editorial Report LD] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 16 and 17 November. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item:

16 November

The sowing of winter crops has ended in Kazakhstan. Barley has been planted on almost 2 million hectares. Green shoots are already showing and are considered good. The sowing is taking place not only in the southern and western oblasts as traditionally, but in recent years in the north, too. With favorable weather, the winter crop can exceed the summer one. (0500 GMT)

To date, 800,000 tons of cotton have been delivered to procurement points in Tadzhikistan. In order to meet pledges, farms in the republic have now only to deliver to procurement points 85,000 tons of raw cotton. (1100 GMT)

Harvesting is being completed in Central Asia, where it's still warm and sunny. A bumper cotton harvest is reported. Cotton is the main crop there; its chief producer in the country is Uzbekistan. This year the republic has taken in more than 5 million tons of raw cotton. Central Asia and the southern regions of Kazakhstan have also grown a good rice crop. The dense network of irrigation canals and reservoirs makes it possible for them to increase the volume of farm produce steadily even in drought-affected years. (1000 GMT)

17 November

The last combines today left the corn plantations of Kazakhstan. Despite the drought the corn has succeeded in many of the oblasts of the republic. A good harvest has been grown in Tselinogradskaya, Semipalatinskaya, Karagandinskaya and other oblasts. The best results are in Taldy-Kurganskaya Oblast where more than 50 quintals per hectare were harvested. We have received a report from Alma-Atinskaya Oblast that the harvesting of sunflower ended today. (1100 GMT)

Corn harvesting has been completed in Kazakhstan. The crop has been gathered on an area of almost 1.5 million hectares. An average yield of 45 quintals of grain per hectare was obtained. (1200 GMT)

KAZAKHSTAN PREPARING FIELD EQUIPMENT FOR NEXT YEAR

LD161052 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 14 Nov 79 LD

[Summary] Kazakhstan farms are preparing equipment for next year's fieldwork. By today 10,000 tractors and 4,500 combines had been overhauled. Farms are devoting a lot of attention to preventative servicing of machinery. The republic has 160,000 tractors; they are now all ready to go into the fields. Twenty thousand combines are fully prepared.

Astakhov Commentary

LD161054 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 14 Nov 79 LD

[Semen Astakhov commentary]

[Text] You have just heard, comrades, a note from Kazakhstan on agricultural equipment overhauling. I want to dwell in more detail on this. Tomashets, the republic's deputy minister of agriculture, delivered approximately the same report at a joint meeting of the collegiums of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture and the State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture.

The meeting was devoted to the preparation of equipment for 1980 fieldwork. Comrade Tomashets also reported a lack of spare parts and the uneven nature of their supply during the year, and also the unsatisfactory work of works support bases which should be engaged in guarantee repairs of new equipment. I would add that comrades from the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Belorussia and other union republics spoke in the same spirit at the collegium.

All this is of course correct. The collegium, however, sharply criticized the organization of work in equipment repairs on many of the country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Moreover it was especially stressed that the main shortcoming here is that farm managers are not heeding the lessons of the past year. Thus in Kazakhstan and Kirgizia in particular, according to the USSR Central Statistical Adminstration, by 1 November considerably fewer tractors and combines than by the same time last autumn had been repaired. Repairs are going slowly in Kurganskaya, Orlovskaya, Kostromskaya and certain other oblasts and autonomous republics. You and I know that if combines and windrowers, say, are not repaired in the autumn and winter, there will be no time or resources left to do it, because spring sowing will begin, and then haymaking and crop cultivation. The collegium stressed that preparation of equipment for next year's fieldwork must not be neglected.

Examples of excellent organization of repairs were cited at the collegium. In Orenburgskaya Oblast preparation of combines and other equipment this year was begun as early as the beginning of September. Yet the harvesting here was not easy. A rich harvest was brought in, with all resources thrown into the harvesting. So the Kolos, Rassvet and Rodina kolkhozes and other leading farms in Orenburgskaya Oblast have already completed overhauling seed drills and tillage equipment, and preparation of harvesting equipment in proceeding rapidly.

Autumn and winter repairs have been begun in an organized manner by farms in Latvia, Lithuania, Moldavia and also Rostovskaya, Bryanskaya and Volgogradskaya oblasts. The collegium sharply criticized those farms on which winter storage of machinery has been badly organized. Examples were cited in which combines are put into the machinery yard without being cleaned and without having their batteries or belts removed, and in which other violations of the demands of the GOST [national state standard] are permitted. For, indeed, there is a lack of spare parts, and especially when people remember them before the start of the harvest. The collegium also talked about oil-production economies.

So the solution of all these problems which I have just mentioned depends primarily on the degree of preparedness of combine operators, tractor drivers and drivers who are entrusted with the equipment. Therefore the joint meeting of the collegiums of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture and the State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture devoted much attention to training of cadres and rural machine operators.

REUTER: NEW T-80 BATTLE TANK BEING PREPARED FOR 1980 DEPLOYMENT

WA161335 London REUTER in English 1324 GMT 16 Nov 79 WA

[Text] London, Nov 16, REUTER--The Soviet Union is likely to bring into service a new mystery battle tank next year, the usually well-informed INTERNATIONAL DEFENSE REVIEW (IDR) reported.

The Russians have been developing the T-80 main battle tank for some years and North Atlantic Treaty Organization experts believe that it is bigger and better than any other tank in service in Europe.

The IDR said in its current issue that U.S. intelligence sources had predicted that the T-80, which carries a 125 millimetre gun, will be deployed in mid to late 1980.

IDR said its own European sources "say that a complete company of T-80 evaluation prototypes took part in a night firing exercise near Moscow at the end of 1977, which tends to confirm the U.S.-estimated deployment date."

Western sources differ on whether the T-80 is protected by new, super-tough laminated armor. IDR quotes its sources as saying the armor was certainly different from that on current Soviet T-64 and T-72 tanks.

PAVLOVSKIY, OTHER OFFICERS ATTEND GROUND FORCES MILITARY COUNCIL

LD130925 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Oct 79 p 2 LD

[Correspondent report: "Toward New Heights"]

[Text] The Ground Forces Military Council has discussed the results of combat and political training in the past training year and the tasks stemming from the USSR Defense Ministry's requirements for the coming training year. Col Gen V. Yakushkin, chief of the Ground Forces Main Staff; Col Gen M. Khomulo, Ground Forces deputy commander in chief for combat training; and Maj Gen A. Klyuyev, deputy chief of the Ground Forces Political Directorate, delivered reports.

It was noted that the regiment which initiated competition and many other units and subunits have successfully fulfilled combat and political training plans for programs and socialist pledges. At the same time, a number of units and subunits have not scaled the heights outlined and have not displayed sufficient persistence in work to improve the quality and efficiency of the training and educational process. The reports and speeches revealed reasons for existing shortcomings.

The winners of the movement for the leading formation were announced.

Army General I. Pavlovskiy, commander in chief of Ground Forces and USSR deputy defense minister, and Army General S. Vasyagin, member of the Military Council and chief of the Ground Forces Political Directorate, spoke at the Military Council.